

THE HOTTEST
ALT GIRLS IN
ONE MAGAZINE

GIUNO • ST

UCERNE & SUNNY • NICOLE SNOW • MIAA

ISSUE 87 • FREE

FEATURING

PARKWAY DRIVE,
MALLORY KNOX,
CREEPER,
BURY TOMORROW,
WHILE SHE SLEEPS,
SKY AND MORE

WITH SOME SICK
CLOTHING FROM

CREEP STREET
KILLSTAR
DETH KULT
CAMILY CLOTHING
FULWOOD LONDON
MALICE LINGERIE
& MORE

ALSO

HORIZON ZERO DAWN
PERSONA 5
MISTY GAMER GIRL
AND MORE

The Italian Superbabe
#87
FISHBALL

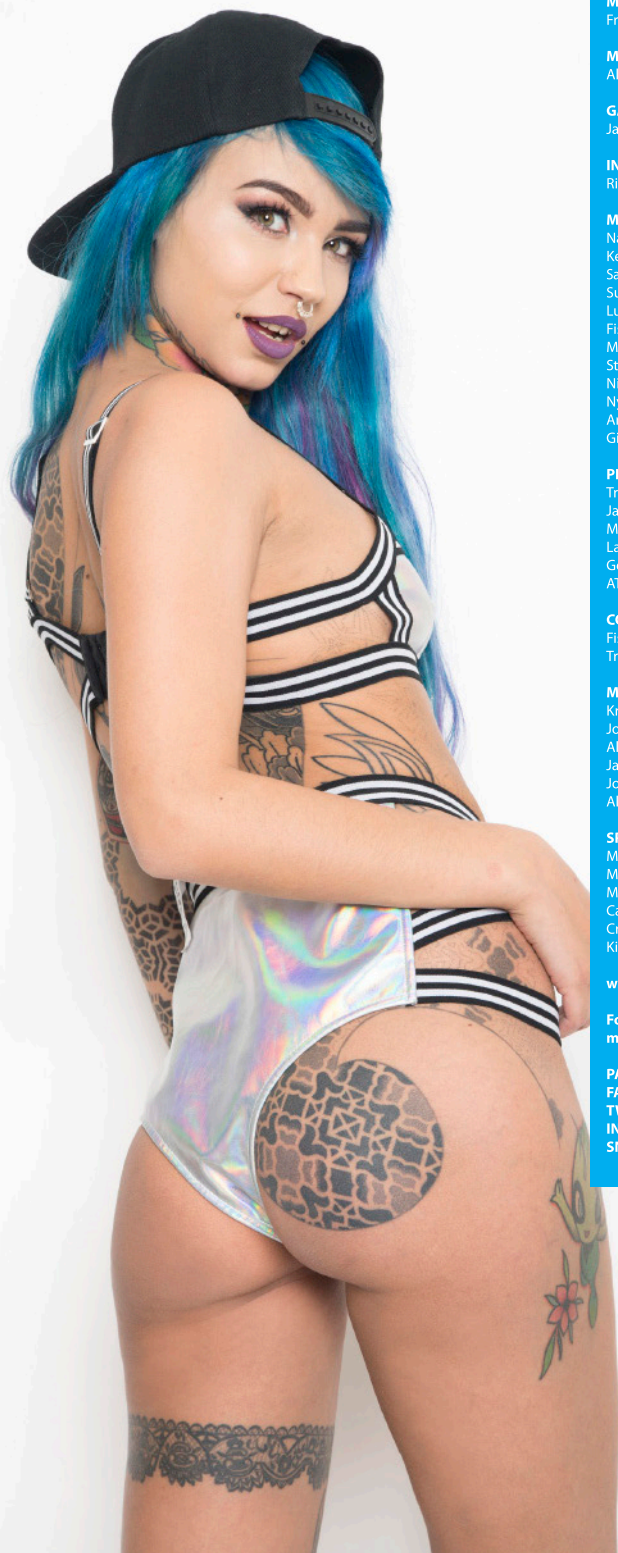
FEATURING
SAGA
SPARKS
& KESHIA





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**MANAGING EDITOR / DESIGNER**

Fraser Mutch

MUSIC EDITOR

Alice Blenkinsop

GAMING EDITOR

James Hall

INTERVIEWS

Rich Alt-Girl Botherer

MODELSNayru - www.twitter.com/NayruSuicideKeshia - www.twitter.com/kawaiikeshiaSaga Sparks - www.twitter.com/houseofsagaSunny Holiday - www.twitter.com/sunnyholiday3Lucerne - www.twitter.com/aslucerneFishball - www.instagram.com/fishball_sgMiaa - www.twitter.com/miaa_xxoxStevie Dagg - www.instagram.com/stevie_daggNicole Snow - www.twitter.com/nicolesnowxoNymphae - www.twitter.com/NymphaeAmber T - www.twitter.com/AmbervonTasselGiuno - www.instagram.com/giuno_**PHOTOGRAPHERS**Tripodski - www.twitter.com/TripodskiJaitjunior - www.instagram.com/jaitjuniorMike White - www.twitter.com/MikeWhitePhotogLaughing Orc - www.twitter.com/LaughingOrcGemma Edwards - www.instagram.com/ItsGemmaEdwardsATOM - www.instagram.com/atom_creative**COVER CONTRIBUTORS**Fishball - www.instagram.com/fishball_sgTripodski - www.twitter.com/Tripodski**MUSIC CONTRIBUTORS**

Kristofer Billingham

Joshua Clarke

Alice Hoddinott

James D Maxim

Jonathan Miller

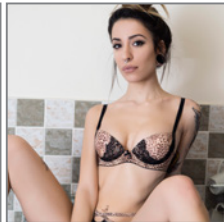
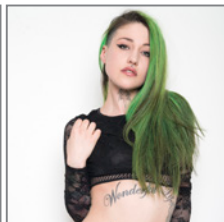
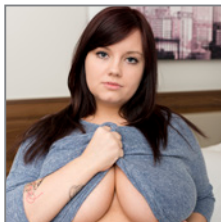
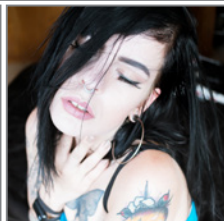
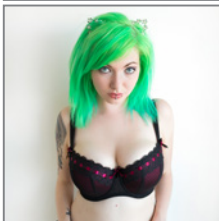
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FISHBALL

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PHOTOGRAPHER: JACK RUSSELL @JACKRUSSELL_PHOTO
MODEL: ROUGE SUICIDE @SHOWMEYOURTITCH



Mayra

Photographer: Mike White

Hey Nayru! Welcome to Elite, tell us a bit about yourself: Hey! Well, I'm a bit of a nerd! I'm a bit of an oddball really, I love so many kinds of music and games and things that I'm just a mish-mash of different styles. Which is fine because I spend half my time naked anyway! I'm into punk, emo, industrial, all different kinds of things really. I'm also pretty passionate on issues like feminism, body positivity, and I'm very far left.

What was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot? Awesome! Mike is a sweetheart, we had loads of snacks and ice creams as well while shooting!

What was your favourite part of the shoot? We also shot a Suicide Girls set at the same time; Mike standing over me on a blow up bed trying his best not to fall over and land on me!

On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you? A 7 or 8? I don't know, it's a tough question! I certainly don't think I'm better than everyone else, there are a ton of girls who I think are better looking. I'm not perfect; but then again what is perfect?! I wouldn't change anything about myself regardless, I am what I am.

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why? Ugh so many! I'd love to model for killstar, and definitely curvy Kate and Scantilly. They're such an awesome lingerie brand that really embody my philosophy on body positivity!

You're hosting an Elite sponsored jelly wrestling competition. Which four celebrity combatants will you book and why? Gordon Ramsay, David Mitchell from Peep Show, Trent Rezno and Amanda Palmer. Someone would get hurt, Gordon would be shouting at everyone to fuck off and David Mitchell would be having an existential crisis in the corner.







Photographer: Mike White

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PART OF YOUR BODY AND WHY? OBVIOUSLY I HAVE THE BOOBS. THE BOOBS HAVE NEVER LET ME DOWN. FACIALLY, I WOULD SAY MY EYES.





A person with vibrant green hair, seen from the back, has several tattoos. On their upper back, a large tattoo reads "I Die & Cheer For All The Broken" in a cursive font, surrounded by stars and decorative swirls. On their lower back/buttock area, another tattoo reads "I Wouldn't Have Any Other Way" in a similar cursive font, also with stars and swirls. A small tattoo is visible on their right wrist. They are wearing a light pink, ribbed bikini bottom. A white text box is overlaid on the image, containing the text: "WHAT'S A GUARANTEED TURN ON FOR YOU? INTELLIGENCE, MY SENSE OF HUMOUR (IT'S PRETTY TWISTED), SHARING MY VIEWS ON IMPORTANT MATTERS. AND A MOHAWK DOESN'T HURT EITHER!"

WHAT'S A GUARANTEED TURN ON FOR YOU? INTELLIGENCE, MY SENSE OF HUMOUR (IT'S PRETTY TWISTED), SHARING MY VIEWS ON IMPORTANT MATTERS. AND A MOHAWK DOESN'T HURT EITHER!

Photographer: Mike White

What's your favourite song currently? It's an old one but Little Things by Good Charlotte. They're awesome.

What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag? That it's ok to be curvy, it's ok to be different, and if you want to walk around wearing cat ears on your head, do it. Be who you are, because that's perfect.

Describe your perfect photoshoot: Any of the Elite staff - Tripodski, ATOM Creative, Mike, they're all great to work with and have a laugh! Get some other models like Keshia, Riae, Chad, and have a big slumber party and pillow fights in our underwear while someone takes pictures.

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? Well, I'm a pretty different shape to a lot of models! I'm healthy - to an extent. I'm vegan so I do eat pretty healthy meals; however I love ice cream and chocolate and I'm not going to never let myself have nice things, what a boring life that would be! I'm naturally curvy, I have big hips, this is just my natural body shape and I'm ok with that.

What do you like most about Elite? Obviously the girls and models are amazing! And the staff are so nice. I like that Elite does have features on tattoos and bands and things like that as well. I'd love to see features on models talking about their tattoos, I think that could be really cool!

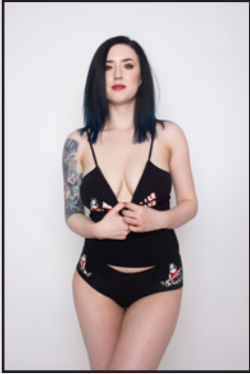








FINALLY, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAY TO THE ELITE READERS? IF YOU'RE STILL READING THIS AND HAVE ACTUALLY READ ALL MY RAMBLINGS, I LOVE YOU!



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Keshia

Photographer: ATOM

Hey Keshia! Welcome to Elite, tell us a bit about yourself: Hiiiiiii I'm Keshia, I'm small and I like animals. I work in a cat cafe and model occasionally for fun!

What was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot? Fantastic as always.

What was your favourite part of the shoot? Probably trying to not get my dog in the pictures as he was following me everywhere and is hard to resist!

On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you? With a good filter and lighting maybe a 7 yeah? haha!

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why? I absolutely love Lazy Oaf. I love wearing any wacky and colourful stuff too!

You're hosting an Elite sponsored jelly wrestling competition. Which four celebrity combatants will you book and why? Probably some that are fit but I also wanna see get slapped around and hurt a little bit like Cheryl Cole, Kim K, Justin Bieber and Taylor Swift... man I hate Taylor Swift!





**WHAT'S YOUR
FAVOURITE
PART OF YOUR
BODY AND WHY?
BOOBS BECAUSE
THEY'RE CRAZY
BIG FUNBAGS.**

Photographer: ATOM

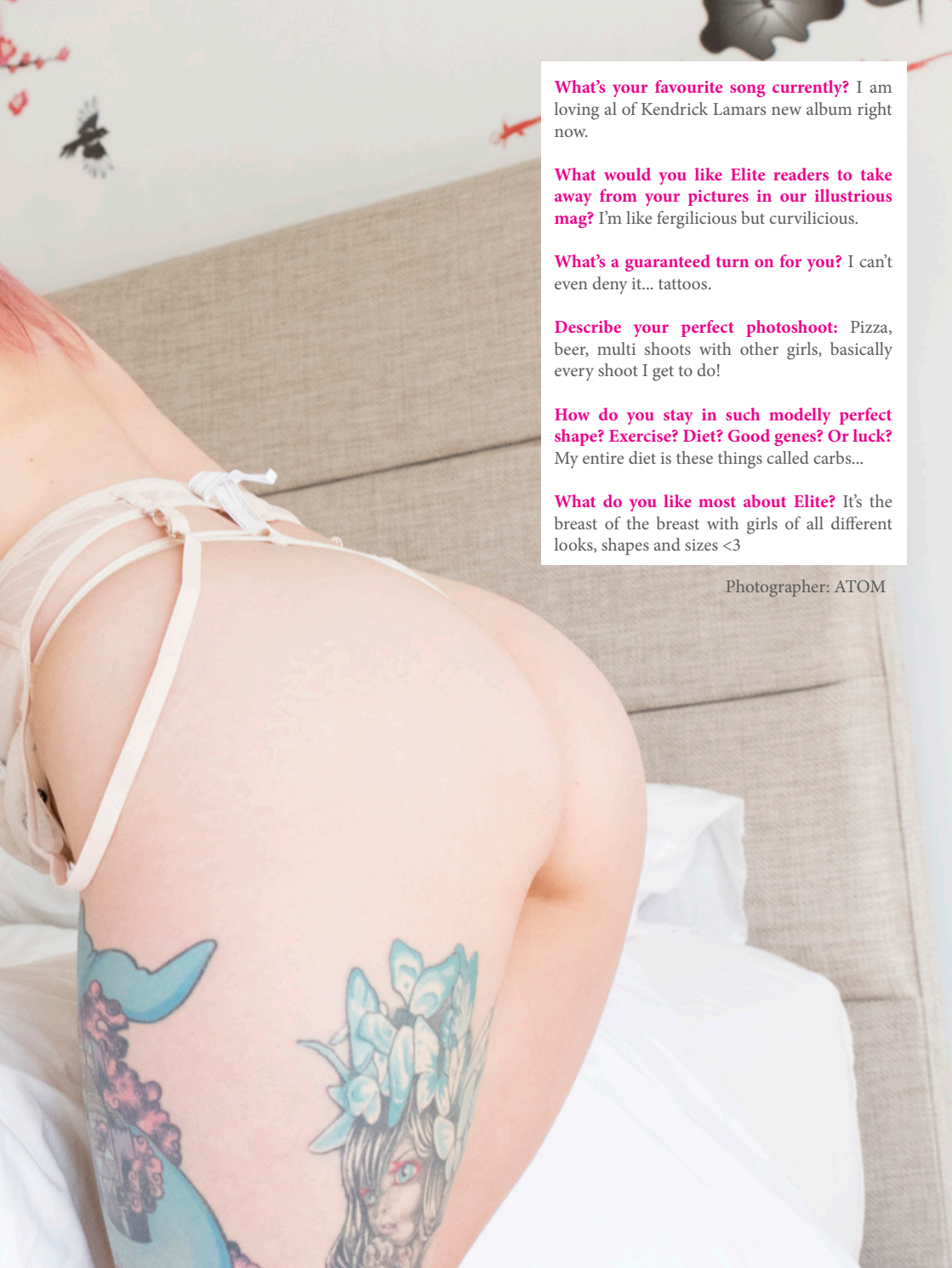












What's your favourite song currently? I am loving all of Kendrick Lamars new album right now.

What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag? I'm like fergilicious but curvilicious.

What's a guaranteed turn on for you? I can't even deny it... tattoos.

Describe your perfect photoshoot: Pizza, beer, multi shoots with other girls, basically every shoot I get to do!

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? My entire diet is these things called carbs...

What do you like most about Elite? It's the breast of the breast with girls of all different looks, shapes and sizes <3

Photographer: ATOM

**FINALLY, IS THERE
ANYTHING YOU
WOULD LIKE TO
SAY TO THE ELITE
READERS? THANK
YOU AND PLEASE
FOLLOW ME
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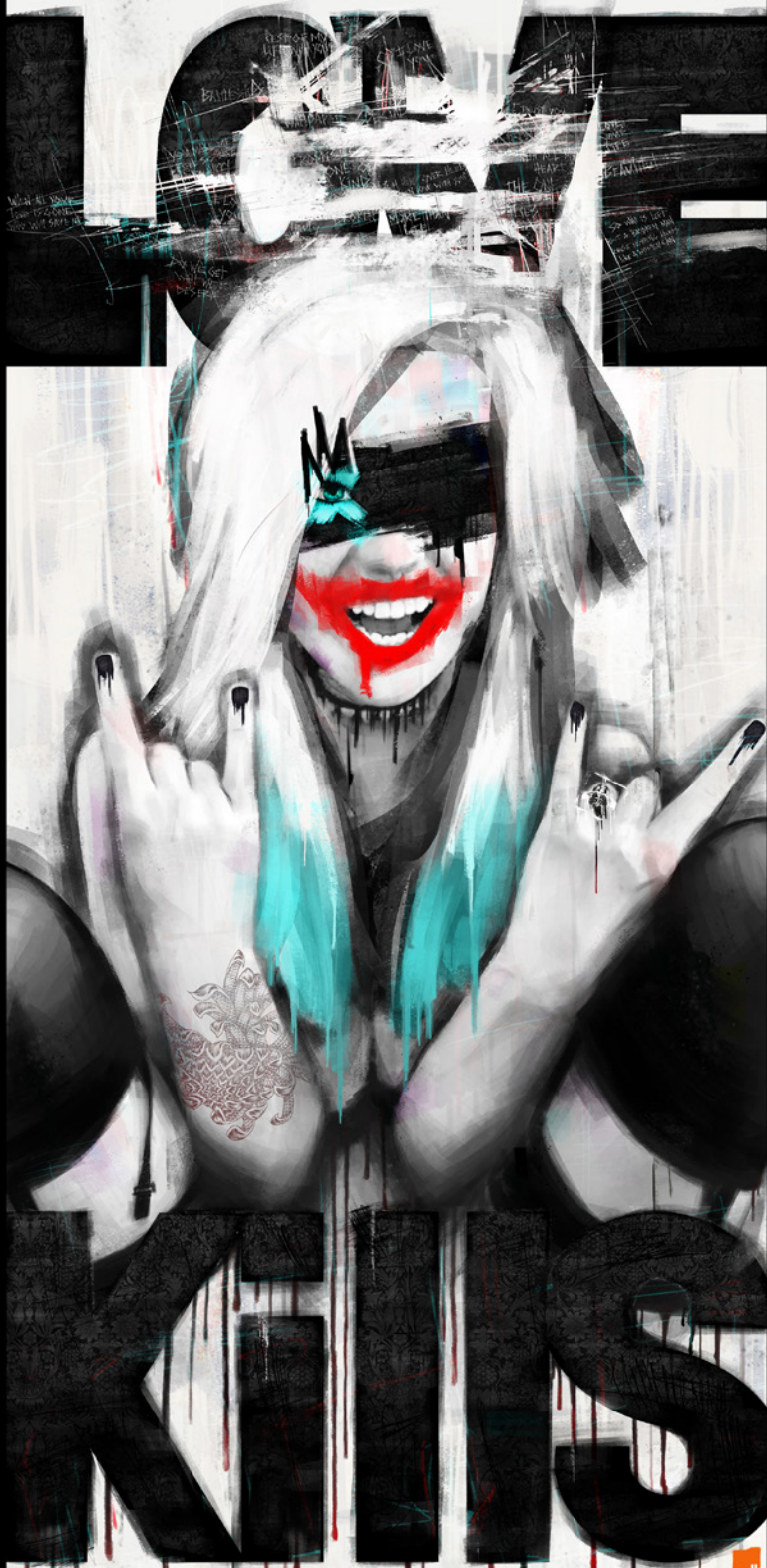
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KISS

SAGA SPARKS

Photographer: Jaitjunior







Hey Saga! Welcome to Elite, tell us a bit about yourself: Hi! Thanks so much, I'm honored! Well, I'm a Suicide Girl, photographer, videomaker and also known as a model. My favourite things are shounen animes, B-movies and wrestling. I'm totally a big city girl who loves to drink with friends and play silly board/RPG games.

What was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot? It was very nice, in fact. Jai and I are full-time working partners. He knows me very well so usually we just start shooting and in minutes it is done. Our photography taste is very similar and that's why it works out so well.



What was your favourite part of the shoot? My favourite part is always creating the harmony between the present elements. Like, the scenario, my clothing colours and the way the light will be acting inside the location. In the end it was the colours. It felt very much like a Mario/Sonic colour palette and I loved it!

What's your favourite part of your body and why? My eyes. I love them and also I have this secret combo magic stare which is

Photographer: Jaitjunior





WHAT'S A GUARANTEED TURN
ON FOR YOU? A COMBO OF
A VODKA BOTTLE, AN INDIE
MULTIPLAYER GAME AND
A GIANT SIZED PIZZA! OH,
DO YOU MEAN PHYSICALLY,
MAYBE? IN THAT CASE I
WOULD TOTALLY GO FOR
SKINNY GEEKS PRETENDING
TO BE BAD BOYS!





What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag? I want you all folks to know that I LOVE what I do! Being an alternative model and posing is the moment where I find myself free from any doubts about who I am. I enjoy every second I'm doing it so when I'm doing it I hope the results can give you folks the same joy it gave me!

Describe your perfect photoshoot: I would love to be a model for LaChapelle, in a complete 90's style. His colours and compositions are simply amazing!

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? It's a twist of mixed feelings as pizzas and hot dogs fly in my direction and I have to be in control! Sometimes I exercise, sometimes I start a new diet. It is all relative to my mood! All I know it is that for me no good genes, no luck so far!

What do you like most about Elite? Pages and more pages of amazing girls with unique styles. In fact It is a fucking honour to me being among them! By the way, can I say fuck? Gosh, I hope so.

Photographer: Jaitjunior









Photographer: Jaitjunior



Finally, is there anything you would like to say to the Elite Readers? Oh of course! Thank you guys for the interest on knowing a lil' bit more about me! It was a pleasure being here but now I gotta go. Ya still can stay tuned in my social medias @houseofsaga and maybe in the next Elite pages, who knows right? xoxo, Saga

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SUNNY &

LUCERNE

Photographer: Tripodski



How did you enjoy the shoot?

Sunny: It was great! We had a blast together. As long as we have known one another and worked intimately for the same modeling company, we had never actually shot together so this was a treat!

What was it like to work with Tripodski?

Sunny: We have both worked with him in the past! We always have a fun time working with him and during the shooting process we can already tell the photography is going to be fantastic. Thank you Tripodski!







What was it like to work with one another?

Lucerne: I've always admired Sunny's work and being one of my favourite girls to hang around with it was super nice to be able to finally work together and produce some new content for you guys to enjoy as well!

Sunny: It's so funny because I've always found Lucerne to be such a babe and I have admired her for so long now that I don't think I ever pictured myself in a shoot with this absolutely stunning woman! It was such an honour and honestly quite effortless, we just giggled and swooned through it all haha.

What's Sunny's best feature: What isn't Sunny's best feature? That smile and that booty! Oh. My. God.

Outside of modeling, do you have any other passions?

Sunny: Along with modeling I also enjoy performing. I love to sing, dance and act and make a living traveling and doing the things I love the most!

Lucerne: Outside of modeling I also enjoy traveling the world with my friends, meeting new people in new cities and seeing places I never thought I would before. I'm currently touring with Sunny as we speak for the Blackheart Burlesque and getting my travel fix in!

What's the naughtiest thing you've ever done?

Sunny: We have a bad habit of J Walking in America together which is a big no no in LA. We tend to be a bit impatient about traffic lights! Haha.

Beards, yes or no? *Lucerne:* I've always been a fan of beards!

Sunny: Did someone say beer? Beer?! Where's the beer?

What's the worst idea you ever had? *Sunny:* The worst ideas I ever had aren't worth dwelling on any longer because I wouldn't be here today with such a babe like Lucerne traveling the states and doing what we love the most.



WHAT'S LUCERNE BEST FEATURE: WHAT'S NOT TO LOVE?! SHE'S GOT KILLER EYES, THE BEST TATS AND A BOOTY THAT STOPS TRAFFIC, I CAN'T EVEN...





WHO HAS BEEN YOUR FAVOURITE MODEL 2017 SO FAR?

SUNNY: WE WOULD BOTH HAVE TO GO WITH MILA SPIGALON AKA PENELOPE SUICIDE! SHE'S SUCH A TALENTED WOMAN IN SO MANY AREAS. SHE'S SO MUCH TO TAKE IN AS A BOMBSHELL AND PIN UP QUEEN, WE ARE SO THANKFUL TO GET TO WORK WITH HER AND WITNESS HER PASSION DAILY!



Finally, is there anything you'd like to say to Elite readers? *Sunny*: Thanks for checking out our feature, please feel free to follow our shenanigans with the Suicidegirls and the Blackheart Burlesque on Instagram, @aslucerne and @missunnyholiday! Also, don't forget to visit Lucerne and I this fall in London at the Electric Ballroom in Camden! Tickets are on sale now on blackheartburlesque.com! For more photos from this lovely set please check out and support the Elite Patreon where you can find us along with some of our favourite babes!







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FISHBALL

POSSIBLY THE HOTTEST
WOMAN ON THE PLANET!





Welcome Fishball, how are you? Hey! I'm fine thanks!

Seriously though, we're so thrilled to have you in Elite. Did you have fun shooting for us? Yes I enjoyed the experience so much! It was really fun to shoot with you! There were so many laughs!

What is like to grace our cover for the first time? It's a honour! I've been following the magazine for a long time, I was so excited when we planned our shoot. I was so impressed before when I saw the cover of Riae for the first time so I couldn't wait to shoot for you!

You always seem so effortless on camera, is it hard reinventing yourself for new features? It's not so hard, I shoot every day. For me it's actually not so hard to try to do stuff for new features and interpret different situations.

Every time of the year seems exciting for you. You're always up to something. When is your chill time and what do you get up to? I really don't have a lot of chill time, usually I take a break in random periods of the year going to warm places or to my house in the south of Italy.





Photographer: Tripodski

SOMETHING YOU WEAR WITH APLOMB IS YOUR TATTOOS. WE BET YOU ARE STARTING TO PUT TOGETHER QUITE A COLLECTION. WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE? MY FAVOURITE PIECES ARE FOR SURE MY BACK AND MY BELLY, THE DOT WORK STYLE.





So you seem to be traveling everywhere these days... did you like it in the UK? I loved London and Newcastle for sure, I have been to London many times, but for me it was totally new going around Newcastle.

What are your hobbies? My hobbies are painting and photography, but not as a model, I love to take pictures too.



You are without a doubt one of the most amazing people we have met! Have you always thought you wanted to model or did it just happen? It just happened. I wasn't really thinking about being a model or that it was going to be my actual job.

You have one of the best bums going! What is your personal fave body part? My bum! :D

With that in mind, which person do you think has the best bum at the moment?

I have just shot a girl a month ago, called Victoria Biguzzi. I have never seen a bum like that without photoshop in my entire life!

Someone once asked me to describe "cool" in one word and I said Fishball. You're a definite icon of just general amazingness too. Do you see yourself as a cool person?

I don't see me because I can't see myself :p not really I think that I'm for sure a lot more stupid and funny than cool and pretty.

Inspiration is important to you, be it music, film or books. What is inspiring you at the moment? Music is one of most important things in my life, as I love music and my boyfriend is a singer. I listen to music every day of my life.

Are you a homebird or someone that prefers a night on the town? I'm something inbetween I think. I can stay at home for a month, but when I go out I can be really dangerous and crazy haha. I'm on the black list in a lot of places in Milan!

It's been a pleasure Fishball. What are you up to after this interview is done? I have to work a lot xD

Have you got a message for your masses of fans and our lovely Elite readers?

Enjoy your life since you're young and you can do what do you want! There's nothing impossible to do.



WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU? I DON'T KNOW! I'M JUST HAPPY RIGHT NOW. I DON'T GIVE A FUCK ABOUT THE FUTURE HAHA.

Photographer: Tripodski



WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO SHOOT WITH TRIPODSKI? IT WAS REALLY FUNNY! I LOVED THE STUDIO PICTURES AND HE WAS SINGING ALL THE TIME... IT WAS SO FUNNY!



It was clear from your feature you have a great figure! Where does that come from? Do you have to work for it or is it just good jeans/genes? I have started to go to the gym just one month ago, so maybe I'm just lucky!

Photographer: Tripodski





**FINALLY, WILL YOU BE COMING
BACK TO US SHORTLY AS WE
CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF YOU! YES
OF COURSE, I WOULD LOVE TO!**

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PHOTOGRAPHER: MARK BARANOWSKI
MODEL: NADINE CRASS



Miaa

Photographer: Gemma Edwards



Hey Miaa! Welcome to Elite, tell us a bit about yourself: Hey! I'm a single mum, to two beautiful boys and a full time animal care student. Hopefully next year I will be doing my veterinary nurse course! Also in my spare time I like to get naked and have pictures taken.

What was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot? Well it was the first time I ever met/worked with Gemma Edwards, I was so nervous because it was my ever first shoot, but she really put me at ease, plus she's like magic with the camera! I didn't know I could like my own butt!!





Photographer: Gemma Edwards



**WHAT WAS YOUR FAVOURITE
PART OF THE SHOOT? PROBABLY
JUST THE CHATTING... THE SHOOT
TOOK LIKE 3/4 HOURS BECAUSE
WE JUST TALKED FOR AGES! IT
WAS SURREAL TALKING SHIT AND
ABOUT BOYS WITH MY TITS OUT.**

Photographer: Gemma Edwards







**WHAT'S A
GUARANTEED TURN
ON FOR YOU? IF
SOMEONE SMELLS
NICE! ALWAYS A
GOOD THING!**



What's your favourite part of your body and why? Probably my nose or my boobs.

On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you? I personally don't think I'm that good looking! I'd say a 6.

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why? Curvy Kate! Love the brand and the bras and underwear! The brand does really represent the 'big boobie ladies'.

You're hosting an Elite sponsored jelly wrestling competition. Which four celebrity combatants will you book and why? Okay so this is difficult! But my first booking would be RuPaul because I love him! And if you can't love yourself how in the hell you gonna love somebody else! Then for obviously reasons Jennifer Lawrence, Emilia Clarke and Beyoncé.

What's your favourite song currently? I don't really listen to the charts but my go-to-song is Pour Some Sugar On Me by Def Leppard.

What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag? That it doesn't matter what size or shape you are, you are beautiful no matter what.

Describe your perfect photoshoot: Somewhere hot! On a beach in the sea!

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? Well I'm not in good shape in retrospect of being skinny, But I wouldn't say I'm unfit, I walk 2-6 miles a day.

What do you like most about Elite? The girls! And I like that you show a variety of shapes and sizes!

Photographer: Gemma Edwards







**FINALLY, IS THERE
ANYTHING YOU WOULD
LIKE TO SAY TO THE
ELITE READERS?
GOING TO HAVE TO
QUOTE RUPAUL AGAIN!
IF YOU DON'T LOVE
YOURSELF, HOW IN THE
HELL YOU GONNA LOVE
SOMEBODY ELSE?**



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STEVIE DAGG

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green haired sex
machine*

Hey Stevie! Welcome to Elite, tell us a bit about

yourself: Hey there! So I'm a badass fire bitch, that's it. Jokes, I'm Stevie, a little green haired Yorkshire lady (the term lady is used loosely here), I'm more of a little skater tattooed chick. This is my second feature in Elite and I'm pretty chuffed about it! I love the outdoors, being creative, experiments (who doesn't love a good science experiment blowing stuff up), plants, flowers and most things green. I fire breath, play with knives (currently practicing sword swallowing and knife spinning), do a little bit of taxidermy and just generally spend my spare time either creating things or going on camping trips with my friends.

What was it like to work with the photographer

on this shoot? I loved it. Tripodski makes me feel so comfortable. It was the first time I had done any nude modelling and he just makes me feel awesome the whole way through. I always have full confidence he will take the best photos!

What was your favourite part of the shoot?

The first part of my shoot was on location and it was great! It's the first time I've done any location stuff so it was really fun and also so many ideas flying around between us. The second half was the studio stuff and it's always a lot of fun. My hip hop playlist might not have been a favourite, but it makes the butt shots great when you can have a little dance around during the shoot too haha.

On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are

you? Eeh well, I'd say I'm weird more than good looking haha. Suppose it depends on what you think is good looking... I'd say I'm just 'heavily decorated', and if that's classed as good looking, well, erm, can you tell this question has made me go a bit awkward haha.

If you could model for any brand, product or

company, which would it be and why? Adidas. One day. A girl can dream...

Photographer: Tripodski



**DESCRIBE
YOUR PERFECT
PHOTOSHOOT:
POST APOCALYPTIC
THEMED (LIKE THE
FILM MAD MAX)
RIPPED LEATHER,
SPIKES, STUDS,
DIRT, BIKES,
WEAPONS, FIRE,
WHAT DOESN'T
SOUND COOL
ABOUT THAT?**



WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE
ELITE READERS TO TAKE
AWAY FROM YOUR PICTURES
IN OUR ILLUSTRIOUS MAG?
GO GET TATTOOED AND GO
GET HAPPY :)







You're hosting an Elite sponsored jelly wrestling competition. Which four celebrity combatants will you book and why? The Undertaker (because he's my favourite)... so he can take out Kim Kardashian (no nastiness, but I'd love to see her get taken down) then Danny Trejo because he's one of my favourite actors and he could also take out Kim.K. Then David Attenborough can sit on the ring side and just serenade me with animal stories.

What's your favourite song currently? I'm on a massive Chance The Rapper vibe at the moment. If I had to pick one then it would be 'Favorite Song' feat. Childish Gambino. You know when a song comes on and it makes you smile then pull that happy face and just want to dance around and love your life.

What's a guaranteed turn on for you? Ooh a sense of humour 100%. The biggest thing I'm attracted to is someone who can make me laugh. At the end of the day, looks only last a few years, but if you can have a laugh with someone then that can last a lifetime!

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? I eat right when I have to. I'm more body confident when I stay in shape but I'm also the kind of girl who in one sitting can eat two large domino's pizzas then sweets and also a tub of ice cream, I'm talking 500ml+ tub of ice cream size too.

What do you like most about Elite? How bloody lovely everyone is. I'm literally so full of smiles whenever I'm with the guys! Oh and also the boobs... can't forget about the boobs.

Photographer: Tripodski

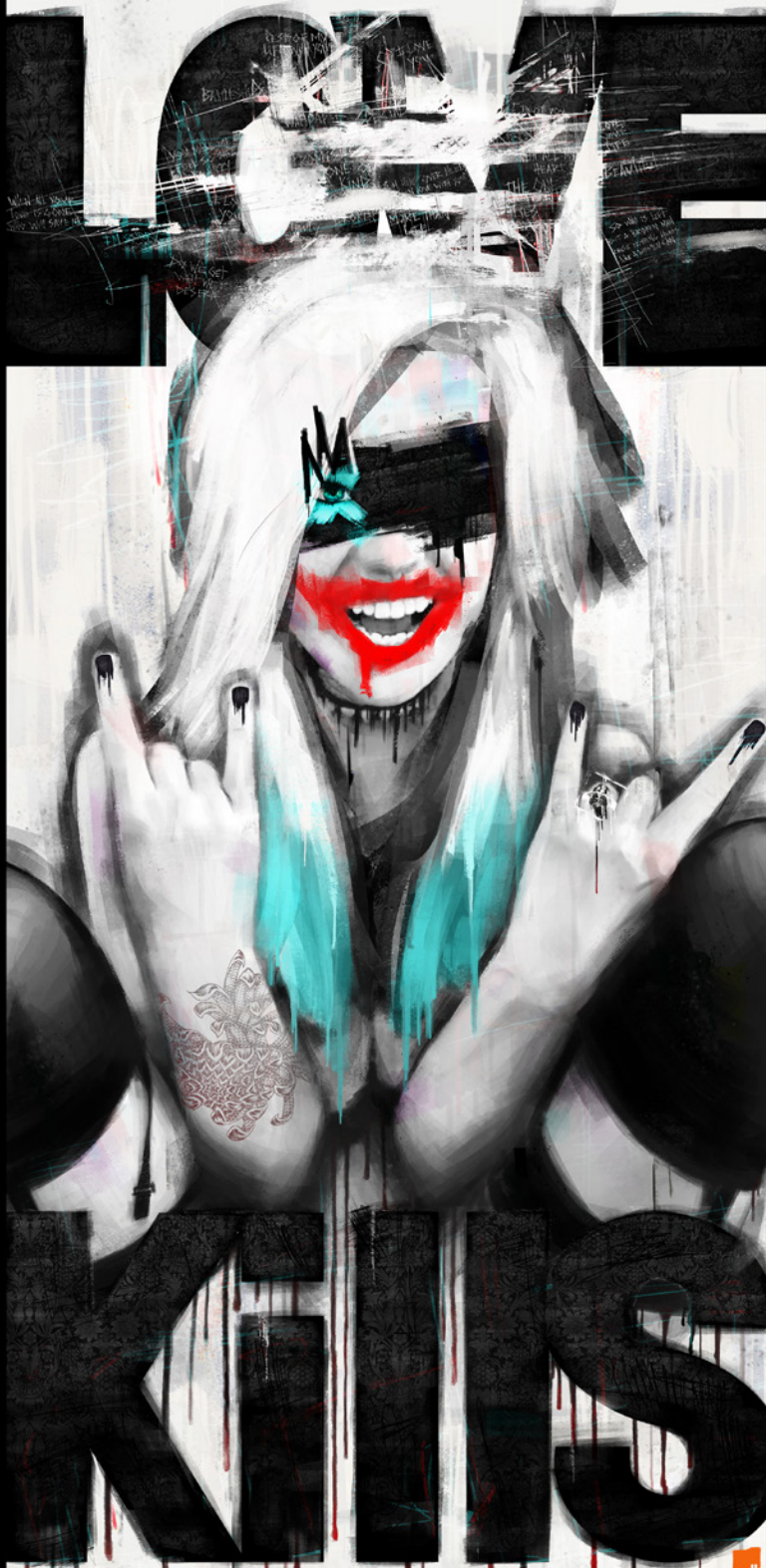
WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PART OF YOUR BODY AND WHY? MY BUM. ALWAYS HAS AND ALWAYS WILL BE, IT'S A BIT MORE THAN A HANDFUL. THE BLACK EYED PEAS SONG 'MY HUMPS', IS SOMETHING I'VE HAD SUNG TO ME A GOOD FEW TIMES IN LIFE HA.





FINALLY, IS THERE
ANYTHING YOU WOULD
LIKE TO SAY TO THE ELITE
READERS? STAY HAPPY
AND STAY HUMBLE :)





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NICOLE SNO

Photographer: Tripodski



W



Hey Nicole! Welcome to Elite, tell us a bit about yourself: Hi I'm Nicole, mixed race Thai and English. I do glamour modelling and the late night channels so I'm a lean, mean, booty shaking machine.

What was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot? I've previously worked with Tripodski before and absolutely love it, we always have so much fun while having the shoot, very chilled environment. Can't wait to come back again.

What was your favourite part of the shoot? My favourite part of the shoot, that's hard to decide because I loved all of the shoot. I got to meet another model too and that was fun, I love meeting new people.





On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you? A 7-8?

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why? Victoria's Secret because I just love wearing it and I've always dreamed of becoming a Victoria's Secret angel.

You're hosting an Elite sponsored jelly wrestling competition. Which four celebrity combatants will you book and why? Definitely Dwayne Johnson because he would look amazing in jelly, Tom Hardy because I think he would get really into it, Nicole Scherzinger because she's just hot and Miley Cyrus because she'd be so fun.

What's your favourite song currently? Passion Fruit by Drake. I literally have it on repeat.

What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag? I hope you all enjoy my pictures and just to make you all happy .

Photographer: Tripodski





WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PART OF YOUR BODY AND WHY? PROBABLY MY BUM BECAUSE I SQUAT A LOT.









What's a guaranteed turn on for you? Kindness and ambition is always a turn on for me.

Describe your perfect photoshoot: By the beach in a warm country with lots of dogs.

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? I exercise at the gym but I do eat what I like. I don't really have a strict diet or anything.

What do you like most about Elite? I love how each and every girl is so unique but captured so beautifully. I also love how Elite has become a team and it's nice to be part of it.

Photographer: Tripodski



FINALLY, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAY TO THE ELITE READERS? I HOPE YOU ENJOYED MY SHOOT AND I HOPE YOU ALL HAVE A LOVELY DAY.



Photographer: Tripodski





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Nymph

CUTE AS A CUP

Photographer: Laughing Orc



e
CAKE

Hey Nymphae! What was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot? Hey! Well, James was an absolute delight to work with! It was the first time meeting him and shooting with him, but he's very professional and easy to get along with! We were both being filmed by viceland for Needles and Pins during this shoot, so it was pretty overwhelming but such an experience!

What was your favourite part of the shoot? That's a hard one - it was all pretty great!



**WHAT'S YOUR
FAVOURITE SONG
CURRENTLY?
A LITTLE PAIN
BY OLIVIA INSPI
REIRA, IT'S SUCH
A LOVELY SONG.**



What's your favourite part of your body and why? Hmm, I guess my eyes - I mean, I'd definitely prefer green or purple eyes but I think my eyes stand out in images quite a bit and it makes me happy.

On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you? Maybe a 7?

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why? Hard decisions! Askasu Blue - their stuff is just insane and unlike anything else, or DollsKill as they have such a variety of cute, punk, rave and so on.

What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag? That you don't have to look the way that society wants you to, or be classed as a 'social norm' to be beautiful. Be who you want to be, you're a goddamn badass.

Describe your perfect photoshoot: Something fantastical (like my name)! Maybe some awesome mermaid shoot with the full make up, costume etc, which just looks out of this world!

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? None of these, in fact I really should start exercising!

What do you like most about Elite? The people who are involved in it I guess, as well as the huge variety of different stuff that it includes - it's fab!

Photographer: Laughing Orc





WHAT'S A GUARANTEED TURN ON FOR YOU? IF YOU CAN PUT UP WITH ME WATCHING ANIME, WANTING TO EAT JAPANESE FOOD ALL THE TIME, AND ADORING HORROR MOVIES BUT GETTING SCARED AT THEM INSTANTLY...





Photographer: Laughing Orc

**FINALLY, IS THERE ANYTHING
YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAY TO
THE ELITE READERS? IF YOU
HAVEN'T TRIED RAMEN FROM
A JAPANESE RESTAURANT, YOU
SHOULD, THEY'RE AMAZING.**







Photographer: ATOM

AMBER T

Is Back!

Hey! Welcome to Elite, tell us a bit about yourself: Hey I'm Amber T! I'm a model and burlesque performer, part time mermaid and full time red head. This is my 4th Elite shoot now, I just love you guys so much I keep coming back for more!

What was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot? It's always a blast, this shoot was especially fun as we had a good playlist to sing along to, there were plenty of high notes being hit.

What was your favourite part of the shoot? Getting my big syringe out! Oi oi!

What's your favourite part of your body and why? I would probably say my teeth because they are pretty straight and white! Good oral hygiene is key!

On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you? I would probably say a 6.5 on a good day as there is always room for improvement!

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why? Agent Provocateur because it's my favourite lingerie brand. Their campaigns are always so sexy and classy. Expensive undies are my weakness!

You're hosting an Elite sponsored jelly wrestling competition. Which four celebrity combatants will you book and why? Well now this is tough! I'd have to say Norman Reedus and Jeffrey Dean Morgan (Daryl and Negan from the Walking Dead) because I literally spent the whole of the last series just imagining them both half naked and fighting, so adding jelly to the mix would just be insane! Then I would have to even it out with two girls so I'll say Katy Perry and Christina Hendricks because IMAGINE THE BOOBS AND THE JELLY!







Photographer: ATOM

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE SONG CURRENTLY?
LUST FOR LIFE BY LANA DEL REY, SHE IS MY
ULTIMATE CRUSH AND ANYTHING SHE DOES IS
JUST PERFECT. I CANNOT WAIT FOR HER NEW
ALBUM I COULD DIE! *GUSH*







**WHAT'S A GUARANTEED TURN
ON FOR YOU? HALLOUMI.**





What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag? A little piece of enjoyment for later, maybe one for the wank bank? Am I allowed to say that? Haha.

Describe your perfect photoshoot: On a beach somewhere hot, with oiled up babes, and maybe one of those giant inflatable banana boat things. I'm getting carried away now but you get the drift!

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? A combination of everything, vegetarian diet and regular gym sessions and obviously lots of dancing. Everything naughty in moderation!

What do you like most about Elite? All the boobs! Duh!

Photographer: ATOM



Finally, is there anything you would like to say to the Elite Readers? Yes! thanks for reading, you're all babes and I hope you enjoyed my ramblings! If you want to follow me I am on Instagram @its_amber_t and Facebook @ambertofficial





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Photographer: Tripodski

GIUNO

Bella!





Hey Giuno! Welcome to Elite, tell us a bit about yourself:

Hey! I'm a lazy Italian girl and alt model current based in Dublin. I have a wild soul and a travellers heart. I love animals, tattoos, modeling and (of course) food!

What was it like to work with the photographer on this shoot?

Tripodski is just the best, I mean there's no word for the describe him! Well the Elite team is such an amazing team, I love them and I can't wait to come back to them!

What's your favourite part of your body and why?

Mmm nice one... I don't have a favourite part because I always find something wrong in me haha. Let's say my stomach, because most of the time is flat haha.

On a scale of one to ten, how good looking are you?

Oh well ten of course! Ahh just kidding... I'll say seven!

If you could model for any brand, product or company, which would it be and why?

Oh my god there are so many that I can't remember them all! Killstar, Ironfist, Diablo Organics, Disturbia, Bikini Lovers... told you there were too many haha.





What's your favourite song currently? In this moment, I'm always singing 'Strunk ' by Die Antwoord.

What would you like Elite readers to take away from your pictures in our illustrious mag? Well I would like that they appreciate me as model, it means they not only see me as a pretty naked girl, but also as a good model.

Describe your perfect photoshoot: My perfect photoshoot will be an outdoor shoot, something like nude fine art with nice weather and a river... and maybe with other models, why not haha!

How do you stay in such modelly perfect shape? Exercise? Diet? Good genes? Or luck? I'll say a bit of everything! My parents are skinny, but sometimes I need to workout so I don't let my body 'give up' haha.

What do you like most about Elite? That they show different kind of beauty from all around the world.

Photographer: Tripodski





**WHAT WAS YOUR
FAVOURITE PART
OF THE SHOOT?**

**I THINK WHEN
TRIPODSKI
BROUGHT ME
OREOS DURING
THE SHOOT HAHA!**





**WHAT'S A GUARANTEED TURN ON FOR YOU?
HAHA I THINK JUST PORN WILL DO.**







**FINALLY, IS THERE
ANYTHING YOU WOULD
LIKE TO SAY TO THE
ELITE READERS? YES,
THANK YOU VERY
MUCH TO EVERYONE
FOR SPENDING YOUR
TIME READING MY
INTERVIEW!**



Hey Victor! Thanks for taking the time to speak to us today, tell us a little about Wild & Sons: Well Wild & Sons is a London (UK) based company providing everything possible for American cars of any age from 1901 upwards. We provide servicing, repairs, restorations, custom builds, parts including performance parts, custom engines as well as custom motorcycles and bicycles.

So you are the most published American car specialist in Europe! I guess this just adds to the list. What would you say has been your highlight publication so far? Too many to list but I would say it was an honour to get published in foreign mags SA HotRods (South Africa) and Ol' Skool Rodz (USA)

If you had any advice for anyone wanting to get their dream American car, what would it be? If it's a classic car bare in mind they don't drive or run like modern cars without some serious modifications, but they are easier to obtain than you would think. All price brackets - so you can afford it, for not much money an 80s Camaro or on the opposite scale a supercharged 69 Dodge Charger Daytona. (We offer free advice for buying and finding these cars)

We do love what you do! Do you like what we do, here at Elite? Yes we love that Elite are an independent magazine for the alt lifestyle and being an old rocker we are always blasting music from Ozzy all the way up to Metallica daily... Even our secret Rat Rod we are building for the 2017 Buster Lang show is called "MOTORHEAD".

If you could plan an ideal photoshoot with Elite, what would it be and why? Get some tattooed beauties with some of our Rat Rods and our own 1964 Pontiac Grand Prix known as "Rough & Ready" doing donuts around a model.

Do you have any exciting plans for the future? Our 67 GTO project will be done by summer 2018, but we had our 1977 Buick Regal just complete the Pure Rally with FRONT magazine. We will be doing a few Pure Rally events next year with some extreme custom Rat Rods and Kustom cars as well as the 2018 SEMA show.

What would be the ultimate goal for Wild & Sons? Just keep growing, but always be down to earth and always having time for people.



WILD & SONS





What has been your favourite project so far? I would have to say our 1967 Pontiac GTO has been our favourite due to all the support from our sponsors behind the GTO (National Parts Depot, Power Maxed, Eibach UK, Dickies, Image Wheels and Evans Waterless Coolants)





Finally, thanks for your time! But what if people want to reach out to you, what's the best way? info@wildandsons.com

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Slam Dunk

— 20 FESTIVAL 17 —

SATURDAY 27TH MAY
BIRMINGHAM - NEC

SUNDAY 28TH MAY
LEEDS - CITY CENTRE

MONDAY 29TH MAY
HULL - THE FORUM

Jägermeister STAGE

ENTER SHIKARI

A 'TAKE TO THE SKIES' TEN YEAR CELEBRATION

don broco

DEAF HAVANA BEARTOOTH *BURY TOMORROW*

WE ARE THE OCEAN

CROSSFAITH

ANDREW MCGAHOON
IN THE WILDERNESS

FIREBALL STAGE

Bowling for Soup

LESS THAN JAKE *Reel Big Fish*

GOLDFINGER MAD CADDIES

★ Zebrahead THE ATARIS *Fenix\$*

COMPERED & HOSTED BY MC LARS

NECKDEEP

MONSTER STAGE

THE MOVIE LIFE WE the Kings

THE MAINE CUTE *THE GREAT* AIM FOR

VISTA TROPIC EYES LIKE PACIFIC

THE KEY CLUB STAGE

TONIGHT ALIVE

SET IT OFF SEAWAY

WATERPARKS WITH CONFIDENCE

BOSTON MANOR blackfoxes Decade FORT HOPE

Against Me! BRONX

SIGNATURE STAGE

FRANK ZERO *AND THE PATIENCE*

CITIZEN Turnover CRIME IN STEREO

MILK TEETH SORORITY NOISE. *TOY*

IMPERICON STAGE

MEMPHIS FIRE

Madina Lake STRAY FROM THE PATH

I PREVAIL COUNTERFEIT ICE NINE KILLS

OCEANS THE ALASKA SHYDES T-O-O CLOSE T-O TOUCH

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FESTIVAL PREVIEW: SLAM DUNK

VENUES: BIRMINGHAM (NEC), LEEDS (CITY CENTRE), HATFIELD (FORUM)

DATE: 27TH/28TH/29TH MAY 2017

Founded by Ben Ray in 2006, Slam Dunk Festival has now established itself as one of the biggest music festivals in the UK amongst the likes of Download, Bloodstock and Glastonbury. Starting as a 1 day festival at Leeds University, the event now spans over 3 days over the May Bank Holiday; Midlands – Birmingham (NEC), North – Leeds City Centre and South – Hatfield (Forum). The festival has also seen a huge growth in the variety of bands and musicians on offer over the years, and this year sees a huge bill of the best alternative and upcoming music across wait for it... 8 yes 8 stages!

Slam Dunk Festival is very unique in that it is arranged in city centre and arena style environments with a lot more intimacy and interaction between bands and the crowd. With so many people packed into idyllic town squares and smaller spaces, it makes the overall atmosphere more electric than people spread out across dirty, muddy fields, and this is why Slam Dunk keeps bringing more and more people back every year!

2016 was a particular iconic year in Slam Dunk Festivals' history as it marked their 10-year anniversary; Fans got to endure some of America's greatest bands in YELLOWCARD and OF MICE & MEN, but the UK was very well presented by bands such as MALLORY KNOX and THE KING BLUES, as well as rising stars such as CREEPER, HACKTIVIST and ROAM. However, the stars of the show for many fans were the mainstage headliners PANIC! AT THE DISCO who put on a performance to remember. Slam Dunk has also seen many other huge names in the Music industry over the years including; LOWER THAN ATLANTIS, ARCHITECTS, NECK DEEP, SET IT OFF, PVRIS and last year's headliners YOU ME AT SIX.

Top 5 bands to look out for at Slam Dunk 2017:

BEARTOOTH – As one of the UK's hottest metal acts in the last 5 years, Beartooth fronted by the incredible Caleb Shomo are sure to set the Jägermeister stage alight and be one of the highlights of this year's majestic lineup!

CROSSFAITH – Crossfaith have fast become one of the world's favourite and most energetic live bands bringing a unique Japanese blend of raw metal madness and intensity. You just have to go and get sweaty to these guys!

DON BROCO – Bedford rockers Don Broco have established themselves as a regular outfit at Slam Dunk, and the band will be making their 3rd appearance in 2017. Just like Crossfaith, Don Broco are one of the most energetic and entertaining acts in the circuit, so get down to the front and enjoy the show!

OCEANS ATE ALASKA – Making their debut appearance at Slam Dunk this year are Birmingham metalcore outfit Oceans Ate Alaska; the band are representing their label Fearless Records on their Invasion tour, and it will be the first UK outing for their new vocalist Jake Noakes. With their 2nd album due to be released later this year, there will be a perfect blend of the bands' new material along with tracks from their debut album 'Lost Isles'. Be there or be square!

ENTER SHIKARI – As one of the world's favourite alternative bands, Enter Shikari will be celebrating the 10th Anniversary of their iconic album 'Take To The Skies' with special performances at all Slam Dunk dates. There is sure to be a lot of on stage antics from front man Rou Reynolds, along with mind-blowing pyrotechnics, so if this does not blow everyone's minds, then I don't know what will!

Get those dancing shoes and devil horns ready, and don't forget to check out the UPRAWR DJ STAGE with special guests and resident DJ's including Suicide Girl favourite Mel Clarke! Previous guests have included the likes of MC LARS, TEK ONE, TERUFUMI TAMANO (CROSSFAITH), DANI & DAVYD WINTER-BATES (BURY TOMORROW), and SHIKARI SOUND SYSTEM!

Slam Dunk Festival 2017 is about to take the UK by storm...

Words by Kristofer Billingham



BLOOD YOUTH

SUPPORT: LOATHE, HOLDING ABSENCE

BOSTON MUSIC ROOM

10TH APRIL 2017



Firmly aboard the hype train and rapidly rising to fruition are tonight's openers Holding Absence hailing from South Wales. The band open softly and slowly before crashing through breakout single Permanent which really sets the tone for this night. London clearly has a lot of love for the melodic hardcore quintet as we witness a sea of Holding Absence merch pile to the front to sing along with Lucas Woodland's subtle yet at times harsh vocals on Dream of Me. They give it everything they have and prove that passion and hard work have been the key to this band's early success. Ashley Green pushes aside his drum kit, dismantles it and insists on finishing the set punching his kick drum, which still sounds thunderous.

Another band riding the same rail are Liverpool's Loathe, a band who saunter onto the stage minus one. Vocalist Kadeem France makes his way through the crowd complete with a grey mask and what appears to be a mannequin's hand, an oddly unsettling beginning. This routine doesn't last long as France rips off the mask as the band rip into their technically challenging and outright pummelling brand of modern day metal. There's pulverising sonics that add to the uneasy atmosphere surrounding the sound of this band. "Loathe. As. One" France repeats over and over again as band and crowd unite and bring a sense of fun and community to tonight's proceedings.

Having played the Boston Music Room over 6 months ago with Zoax to a just over half filled room Blood Youth are back and everything is bigger than last time. The room is essentially sold out, the performance is powerful as they barrage our ears with new material from Beyond Repair, the band's brand new album that this short tour is in support of. It's an undeniable growth on all fronts from the Harrogate hopefuls and even a band member change on the lead up to this momentous occasion hasn't stopped them in their tracks at all. The likes of Making Waves, Parasite and Reason To Stay slide into the set with ease and blow the band's older songs out the water. There's smiles on the faces of everyone in attendance but no one is grinning more than the four on stage. Frontman Kaya Tarsus can't thank us enough and guitarist/riff lord Chris Pritchard seems taken aback by the response here in London tonight. A thoroughly deserved win for a band with bucket loads of promise after a rocky start to their career.

Words & photos by Joshua Clarke

BURY TOMORROW

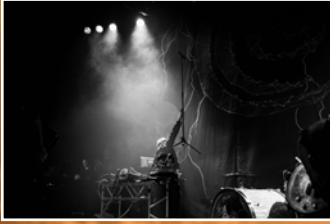
SUPPORT: CROSSFAITH, BLACK PEAKS, ANY GIVEN DAY
O2 FORUM KENTISH TOWN
22ND APRIL 2017





Years and years of plugging away with non stop touring and festival appearances has brought UK metal outfit Bury Tomorrow to the beautiful O2 Forum in Kentish Town, London. Many of the European dates sold out and the UK dates look to have gone the same way, the crowd snaking around the corner before doors would certainly suggest that tonight is going to be full to the rafters.





BURY TOMORROW

PORT: CROSSFAITH, BLACK PEAKS, ANY GIVEN DAY

02 FORUM KENTISH TOWN

22ND APRIL 2017



Any Given Day bound onto stage at a relatively early 7:15pm just 15 minutes after doors but they fare quite well for an opening band tonight. They bring their European metalcore to London with stomp and beatdowns aplenty but also the usual and cliché screamed verses, clean chorus structure as well. A cover of Rihanna's hit single 'Diamond' sees a comical wall of death to start off the night on a jovial note.

Now for something a little different but bringing it back home is the impressive Black Peaks. A band who's built quite the reputation for sonically awe inspiring live shows that complement their intricate and fresh take on post hardcore/rock. The first few rows look on with blank faces with some confused as to why this band are on this bill and others looking on with intrigue. Will Gardner once again proves to be in possession of the one of the best and most captivating voices in our world with his outrageous range over the top of a sensationally blistering set from the musicians in the band.

Now we love this band and we're sure you do to, its Crossfaith from Japan bringing the party to the Forum and they stake a claim to being the best band on the bill tonight. Right from the off its non stop crowd surfers, mosh pits and delirious screams to the bands synth electronica metal. The usual cover of The Prodigy's 'Omen' has the whole room off their feet whilst 'Monolith' threatens to cave the roof in with its devastating drops. There's on stage drinking and non stop energy that exudes from the sextet here as the band have added a second guitarist who thrashes away quietly in the back but beefs up the sound to make it clear that Crossfaith are one of the best live bands on planet earth right now.

Tonight has felt like a long time coming for Bury Tomorrow and it finally feels like the band are getting the credit and adoration that they deserve. The lights dim and the hysteria begins to swell in the room with every pair of eyes fixated on the five men on stage as they roar into opener 'The Eternal'. Their secret weapon lies in frontman Dani Winter-Bates who has grown into this commanding presence that gets everyone bouncing up and down, frantically running around in circles during 'Memories' or has everyone screaming back every word during arguably the bands best song '301' that takes a swipe at all the shit and shady people that this at times poisonous industry has involved in it. Over to Dani's left is Jason Cameron who has grown massively in his role during recent times as his clean singing has never sounded better and relishes having an army of voices to lead along with the bands infectiously brilliant choruses. Older material off of Portraits sits in effortlessly alongside the newer Earthbound tracks that this room can barely contain. Tonight felt like a celebration of all the hard work and lows that Bury Tomorrow have endured, but all the great times have turned them into real contenders to be one of the best bands our tiny island has to offer.

Words & photos by Joshua Clarke

MALLORY KNOX

SUPPORT: LONELY THE BRAVE, FATHERSON

O2 ACADEMY OXFORD

4TH APRIL 2017





Slinking down Cowley Road is a queue of excitable teens and subdued middle agers quietly awaiting doors to open for tonights almost sold out show at the O2 Academy in Oxford. First up is Fatherson who bring their beautifully crafted alt rock songs. Soothing and soaring vocals are the order of the day coupled with explosive moments that really propel the bands quiet/loud dynamic that suits them so well. They're an intriguing band more than they are boring and you can't help but be captivated by frontman Ross Leighton's extraordinary voice.

Lonely The Brave are next up and clamber onto the stage in front of a room that is bursting with bodies and anticipation. Black Mire sparks into life and cues cheers of excitement as the quintet sound terrific tonight. Drummer Gavin Edgeley proves to be a powerhouse behind the kit, his hard hitting style adding that bit of heaviness to the bands alt rock riffs. As usual vocalist David Jakes takes up his position next to Edgeley as he continues to battle his shy and nervous demeanour. However once the band gets into it Jakes locks in the music, unfolds his arms and really looks like he's enjoying himself up there. With a voice as brilliant and euphoric as his it would be a shame for him to dip back into the background even more so, he is essential to this band and his voice takes centre stage for the likes of Backroads and closer The Blue, The Green.

Tonights headliners have come prepared with a new record in the form of Wired, two giant MK logo's that change colours as well as a tremendous lighting rig that really helps set the tone for each track aired. Mallory Knox have had a bit of a stop start career but tonight look comfortable on stage in a venue of this size as they plough through their set. As someone who was lukewarm to the last record and even less so to Wired the guys definitely come across better live. There's lots of energy from frontman and cheeky chap Mikey Chapman who is note perfect throughout and even has a little fun at himself for getting the next song wrong in the set. California is a huge moment and invokes visions of summer time and smiles plastered across the faces of all in attendance. "If its good enough for Slipknot its good enough for us Oxford..." he says knowingly full of irony and fun as everyone gets down before reaching for the sky. Wake Up brings the bounce, whoas and pint throwing whilst Lighthouse gets the biggest cheer of the night and makes the place of bananas. A good stepping stone for Mallory Knox who may finally be on the road to the next level.

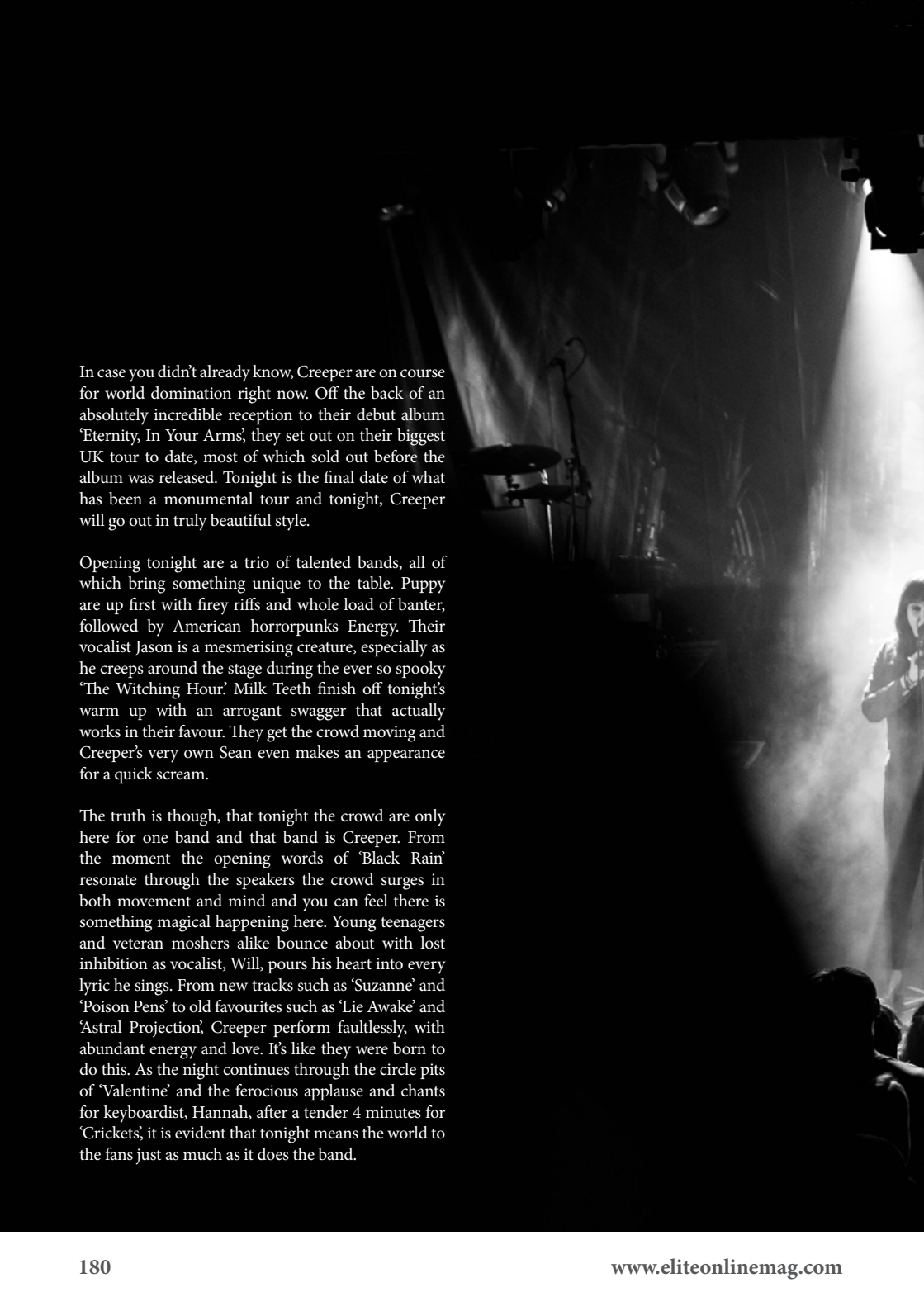
Words & photos by Joshua Clarke



MALLORY KNOX

SUPPORT: LONELY THE BRAVE, FATHERSON
O2 ACADEMY OXFORD
4TH APRIL 2017





In case you didn't already know, Creeper are on course for world domination right now. Off the back of an absolutely incredible reception to their debut album 'Eternity, In Your Arms', they set out on their biggest UK tour to date, most of which sold out before the album was released. Tonight is the final date of what has been a monumental tour and tonight, Creeper will go out in truly beautiful style.

Opening tonight are a trio of talented bands, all of which bring something unique to the table. Puppy are up first with fiery riffs and whole load of banter, followed by American horrorpunks Energy. Their vocalist Jason is a mesmerising creature, especially as he creeps around the stage during the ever so spooky 'The Witching Hour'. Milk Teeth finish off tonight's warm up with an arrogant swagger that actually works in their favour. They get the crowd moving and Creeper's very own Sean even makes an appearance for a quick scream.

The truth is though, that tonight the crowd are only here for one band and that band is Creeper. From the moment the opening words of 'Black Rain' resonate through the speakers the crowd surges in both movement and mind and you can feel there is something magical happening here. Young teenagers and veteran moshers alike bounce about with lost inhibition as vocalist, Will, pours his heart into every lyric he sings. From new tracks such as 'Suzanne' and 'Poison Pens' to old favourites such as 'Lie Awake' and 'Astral Projection', Creeper perform faultlessly, with abundant energy and love. It's like they were born to do this. As the night continues through the circle pits of 'Valentine' and the ferocious applause and chants for keyboardist, Hannah, after a tender 4 minutes for 'Crickets', it is evident that tonight means the world to the fans just as much as it does the band.

CREEPER

SUPPORT: PUPPY, ENERGY AND MILK TEETH
TRAMSHED, CARDIFF
2ND APRIL 2017







CREEPER

**SUPPORT: PUPPY, ENERGY AND MILK TEETH
TRAMSHED, CARDIFF
2ND APRIL 2017**

Creeper shine most in their theatrical moments, however. 'Down Below' will become a staple after the reception it receives every time it's played and 'Misery' will forever be an anthem for a crowd of people who have been sad and found solace in this band. It is no more evident that magic is happening than when 'I Choose To Live' closes the set. A tender song full of meaning and empowerment, this song is the sonic embodiment of the callous heart patch Creeper fans wear. As Will himself says, wearing the patch is a promise the fans and band make to one another, to be family and to care; it is a genuine and moving notion, one which many tonight will carry with them for a long time to come. It is a fitting note to end the night on.

Trying to encapsulate the night in a series of words just doesn't give justice to the event Creeper have put on every night of this tour. From the lighting, to the setlist, to the performance, to the merch, everything is thought out and beautiful. Creeper are truly one of the best live acts the UK has to offer, and with a slot on the Download main stage this summer, the best is yet to come.

Words by Alice Hoddinott
Photos by Joshua Clarke

PARKWAY DRIVE

SUPPORT: ASKING ALEXANDRIA, STICK TO YOUR GUNS
THE GREAT HALL, CARDIFF
11TH APRIL 2017



Last year Parkway Drive managed to sell out and obliterate Brixton Academy and they've done the unthinkable and sold it out once again, actually they've sold out this tour in fact. For over a decade they have been a force to be reckoned with live, blowing every band on every bill far far away with their thunderous and unfuckwithable back catalogue. Now armed with a fairly decent production they are set on firmly being one of the metal bands of our generation.

First act on tonight is the always brilliant hardcore heroes Stick To Your Guns. The band bring a lot of energy and enthusiasm to their set and get the place moving early on. Songs like Nobody and Empty Heads see's heads bang, fists raised and voices screaming every word back to them. Jesse Barnett brings his inspirational passages to the fore before the guys kick into another song that see's more and more people creep towards the front and actually give this band their attention. Closer fan favourite Amber incites the first circle pit of the evening.





Now that the dust has settled over the fact that Danny Worsnop is back in Asking Alexandria lets see if they've managed to improve as a live band after being ropey since the beginning. They slow walk onto stage to a throng of arms in the air and piercing girlish screams which sets the tone for the bands set. All smiles and playfulness are the order of the day as Ben Bruce fools about with his fellow musicians and at one point Danny even has his arm around Ben and all looks well in the AA camp. However the band are still not a great live band, its half arsed, trite, phoned in bullshit. Maybe its the hysteria in the crowd that carries them through or maybe they've improved a little bit, but one things for sure, if they want to be a great live band and take the next step up then they have a looooong way to go.

A drum cage, pyro, fire works, Parkway Drive's production has looked incredible on this tour... unfortunately we are not treated to any of those aspects tonight as The Great Hall is possibly one of the smaller venues on this jaunt. Once lead guitarist Jeff Ling rings out the opening to Wild Eyes then theres no need for any sort of production, the crowd more than make up for any showy lights or blasts of pyro. All you need to survive in this day and age is a solid plethora of hits to choose from, and Parkway Drive have them in spades. Boneyards and Idols & Anchors are aired tonight off of breakthrough record Horizons, an album that is 10 years old now, even Carrion possibly their biggest song is aired second tonight!

But this is still a part of the Ire touring cycle and the likes of Dedicated, Crushed and the colossal and quite frankly neck snappingly good Bottom Feeder get the biggest reactions. The former closing out the night with confetti canon bursts and tens of sweaty dudes and dudettes going over the barrier more times than this reviewer could keep a count of. Parkway Drive are the real deal, production or not this band SHOULD be moving into bigger venues still, moving up the festival bills. A band with such broad ambitions and the fact that they can pull off anything and everything they try is frankly embarrassing to their peers. What the guys do next is anyones guess, but rest assured we will be there with them every step of the way.

Words & photos by Joshua Clarke

PARKWAY DRIVE

SUPPORT: ASKING ALEXANDRIA, STICK TO YOUR GUNS
THE GREAT HALL, CARDIFF
11TH APRIL 2017





CKY - The Phoenix

Longbranch/SPV | Release Date: 16th June 2017

Rising from the ashes, CKY are back! Being their first album since 2009's Carver City, the riff rockers are set to release new album The Phoenix which combines classic CKY with a slightly newer angle to the bands sound.

Tracks Days of Self Destruction and Lies From You really capture that signature stomp that we all know and love from the band, hailing back to the days of 96 Quite Bitter Beings and Flesh Into Gear but are also sprinkled with the addition of synths, proving to be the definitive highlights of the album. Head For A Breakdown is a straight up rock banger and is truly the stand out track, showcasing guitarist and lead singer Chad I Ginsburg's absolutely fantastic guitar work as an example of what is displayed all throughout the release and also shows the bands variation with the use of an acoustic guitar for the songs most incredible intro. Sadly, tracks such as Unknown Enemy just miss the mark with the overuse of similar drum patterns and are often left with the curse of not sounding too dissimilar from other songs on the album but still see the band triumph with nothing short of a solid release!

With a collection of instant classics and songs that are bound to grow on you, The Phoenix is the comeback album that is definitely worth the wait!

Words by James D Maxim



Create To Inspire - Sickness

Basick Records | Release Date: 26th May 2017

One of the UK's most promising bands on the melodic hardcore front is Essex quintet Create To Inspire. The band who usually have a pretty hectic touring schedule took some time off last year to focus on writing and recording their debut album, Sickness. The record starts with a swell and anticipation as tension builds into opener 'Agony'. Even from this one song it's clear that the band have improved and tightened up all that makes them great. The melodies are catchier, the structure of the songs ebb and flow a lot more seamlessly and vocalist Sean Midson's clean vocals have come on leaps and bounds from their previous releases.

There's a lot less emphasis on the thick textures riffs that the guys dealt out in their early material with more focus being on the lyrics and themes that run throughout Sickness. The record is essentially a cry for help and being able to grow. 'Recluse' announces that, "We are all imperfect in our own way, we can change or simply stay the same" whilst the title track declares "I'll find a way to kill this suffering to fight the sickness in me". It's these lyrical passages that will help the band connect with their listeners as at times we've all felt this way. The songs tread similar paths but the impact of the lyrics and the fact that the record as a whole never dips in quality see's Create To Inspire rise above many of their peers.

Words by Joshua Clarke





While She Sleeps - You Are We

PledgeMusic | Release Date: 21st April 2017

When you look back at the last ten years of metal, no one stands out more than While She Sleeps. From their huge riffs to their gang vocals, even through to the message they carry and the people they are, they are a unique band with a loyal following; 'You Are We' is the perfect celebration of who While She Sleeps are and it plays.

Brave, bold and ballsy is the best place to start when talking about this record. Being independently crafted, it is the blood, sweat and tears of each member of this band, their DNA runs through it and you can feel that in every track. The gang vocals on tracks such as 'Settle Down Society' and 'You Are We' quite literally scream a message of "this is who we are, this is what we care about and fuck anyone who gets in our way." Not only that but there are riffs all over this album. No seriously. It's ridiculous in the most incredible way. If you want your face melted and your internal organs rattled with rage, turn 'Revolt' or 'Civil Isolation' up to 100 and lose your mind.

What really makes 'You Are We' stand out is the progression from While She Sleeps' earlier releases. This album feels matured and thought out. There is a lot more clean vocals, but they've managed to add those without losing the gnarly growls they're known for. There is equal, if not more aggression than ever before and it's memorable. This album is who While She Sleeps want to be and they are more than welcome to be that, because put quite simply, it's fucking rad.

Words by **Alice Hoddinott**



Northlane - Mesmer

UNFD | Release Date: 24th March 2017

Australian metal core favourites Northlane released their 4th studio album 'Mesmer' completely unannounced in March this year, and fans were certainly taken by surprise by this in a very good way! Northlane have established themselves as one of the giants in the hardcore arena alongside bands such as The Amity Affliction and Hands Like Houses, but the band have started to tail away from their roots, and are now experimenting with their sound as they hinted in their previous release 'Node'.

From the opening track 'Citizen', it is apparent that grungy guitar riffs are going to be a noticeable aspect of most of the tracks of this album, as well as boundless space-like interludes. There is also a very nice blend of melodic vocal power and scream sections from vocalist Marcus Bridge which collide beautifully with the superb riffs and rhythm sections. Track 4 'Solar' however, outlines how Northlane are taking a more innovative approach with their new material, and provides a very different musical atmosphere from the opening 3 tracks on the album. The second half of Mesmer carries on where it left off, and the band just keep on delivering a musical intensity and passion that is very refreshing to hear. Tracks such as 'Intuition', 'Fade' and 'Veridian' certainly stand out in their own right, but this is one hell of a collection of tracks that any Music can enjoy and appreciate for many different reasons. The last track 'Paragon' also holds major significance on this album as it was specially written and dedicated to the late Tom Searle (Architects). If you are looking to add to your Metal collection, or simply want to check out something new, then Mesmer by Northlane will not disappoint you!

Words by **Kristofer Billingham**



UPCOTE FARM



6/7/8 JULY 2017

SLAVES

NOTHING BUT THIEVES

LOWER THAN
ATLANTIS

FRANK CARTER
& *The Rattlesnakes*

MALLORY KNOX

THE FRONT BOTTOMS

the WONDERYEARS

THE MENZINGERS

HONEYBLOOD.

BEACH SLANG

JAMIE LENMAN

PUZZLED ABOUT
HORSES

SKINNY  LISTER

YOUNG GUNS

WILL VARLEY

BLACK
PEAKS

GNARWOLVES

KEVIN DEVINE

DINOSAUR
PILE-UP

FEED THE RHINO / ROOM / ROLO TOMASSI / TALL SHIPS / MUNCIE GIRLS / BLACK FOXES / AREA 11 / QUEEN KWONG
BRUTUS / STEVEN BATTLE / THE ONE HUNDRED / VUKOV / SLOTTAGE / DE STAAT / DECADE / TIGERCUB / PUPPY / GET INUIT
THE HYENA KILL / ACRES / PEANESS / MOSES / WALLFLOWER / WARS / PETROL GIRLS / GREY WIND / STRANGE BONES
MAKING MONSTERS / BIG SPRING / KAMIKAZE GIRLS / DUCKING PUNCHES / STRAIGHT LINES / CRUMBLE BEE / SHVPE
BAD SIGN / AWAY DAYS / BLUE VOIL DAYS / MILL STONES / WILDIRS / PERSONAL BEST / CASSIUS / DOL / TIZZY BLOOD
JONAH MATRANGA / GIANTS / LOUISE DISTRAS / APOLOGIES, I HAVE NONE / THE ST. PIERRE SNAKE INVASION / POLARY / SØLUR



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Wednesday 13 - Condolences
Nuclear Blast Records | Release Date: 2nd June 2017

Horror punk icon Wednesday 13's upcoming 7th album, Condolences, sees him and his band build upon the more metal sound that has evolved over recent years. As well as being reminiscent of Alice Cooper's darker Brutal Planet era, more industrial-sounding acts like Deathstars and White Zombie also come to mind. Throughout the album, there is a surprising amount of more hard-hitting hardcore/thrash riffs. Cadaverous and You Breathe, I Kill could easily be mistaken for being by Pro-Pain and The Haunted respectively at first but then Wednesday's distinctive creepy vocals remind you what you're tuned into. What The Night Brings and Good Riddance are what black metal would sound like if it was commercialised; using classic effects such as theremin and organ-like sounds, they incorporate a similar dark quality but it's all less demonic and easier on the throat and ears. The album's title track is similarly haunting but its crunchy guitars and dynamic changes make it one of the more interesting and well written tracks on the record. You may never be able to attend a funeral again without reciting its "Sorry for your loss" refrain in your head. The original horror aspect of Wednesday 13 is still there, both lyrically and atmospherically, but seems to be a lot maturer in sound. Cruel To You is the only track on here which harks back to the more horror-glam-punk sound he used to be known for, sounding like a twisted take on a Kiss song. It feels more rushed compared to the rest of the album but is still fun and memorable. Condolences may lack lyrical depth in places but is an enjoyable listen with many infectious choruses and riffs which will satisfy fans and surprise others.

Words by Jonathan Miller



ELITE: UPRISING

AMBLESIDE

Australian melodic hardcore quintet, Ambleside, are a group of hard working, DIY, punk boys looking to go global. Their sound is heavy yet full of heart, and their simplistic blend of soft moments with dark undertones make them something special in a scene where bigger tends to mean better. Out on the road they've supported bands such as Silverstein, Counterparts and Trophy Eyes and from the looks of their social media they've been killing it. Tracks such as 'Tired Eyes' and 'Wash Away' will give you an idea of what these boys are about; go give them the following they deserve.



ABURDEN

Another quintet of Australian melodic hardcore boys, Aburden, bring you all levels of pain and angst. Latest single 'They Say' showcases their ability to create a powerful and beautiful track for fans to shout along to and leaves you wanting more than just the two tracks you can get hold of on Spotify. With hints of Basement and Being As An Ocean sprinkled throughout their sound, it's likely these boys have found a formula for success. 'Face To Face' is an illustration of such a formula showing the type of artistry Aburden are capable of. We'll get to see more of this as their set to release their debut EP this month, thank god!



BALANCING THE DIFFERENT

Are you missing Tom Delonge? Do you want to listen to Blink 182 without experiencing flash backs to the days of The Mark, Tom and Travis Show? Well, Balancing The Different could be the band for you. Hailing from California, this four piece bring you alternative rock in a familiar yet fresh way. Vocalist, Tyler, will always be haunted by his scarily familiar Tom Delonge sound, yet with this band there is a distinct style difference. They could be the love child of Twenty One Pilots and Blink 182... Regardless of who they sound like, they're rad and with a whole bunch of tracks to listen to, you have no excuse not to check them out.



Words by Alice Hoddinott



ARCTANGENT

BRISTOL, UK

EXPLOSIONS
IN THE SKY
(ONLY UK SHOW OF 2017)

TESSERACT CONVERGE

(ONLY UK SHOW OF 2017)

sikTh

ROCKS
Heavy Rocks

GOD IS AN
ASTRONAUT

Deafear

FUTURE OF THE LEFT

devilsold
inossiu

TTNG

fricot

LISTENER

THE
NXII
LOOKS LIKE YOU

sleepmakeswaves*

TALL SHIPS

EMPLOYED TO SERVE

bossk

H A R K

«OHMS»

The Physics
House Band

BRUTUS

STEARICA

HEMELBESTORMER

LOST IN KIEV / HIKES / RIGHT HAND LEFT HAND / HCBP / FUTURE HORIZONS
BOSS KELOID / PIJN / GILMORE TRAIL / ITOLDYOUIWULDEATYOU
FRONTIERER / WOT GORILLA? / LIVING BODY / JARDÍN DE LA CROIX
YOU BREAK, YOU BUY / WORRIEDABOUTSATAN / BRITNEY / A-TOTA-SO
HE WAS EATEN BY OWLS / TOSKA / HALO TORA / THE EVIL USSÉS
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 MAJOR LAZER ALT-J BOY BETTER KNOW LORDE
 SOLANGE RUN THE JEWELS LAURA MARLING KRIS KRISTOFFERSON
 THE JACKSONS EMELI SANDÉ PHOENIX FIRST AID KIT
 JUSTICE ANDERSON .PAAK & THE FREE NATIONALS HAIM
 TOOTS & THE MAYTALS FATHER JOHN MISTY THE FLAMING LIPS
 DIZZEE RASCAL WARPAINT BADBADNOTGOOD METRONOMY
 ANNIE MAC KANO GOLDFRAPP SLEAFORD MODS KATE TEMPEST
 WILEY DYNAMO THE CAN PROJECT THUNDERCAT THE AVALANCHES
 CLEAN BANDIT GEORGE EZRA GLASS ANIMALS COURTEENERS SAMPHA
 DJ SHADOW LONDON GRAMMAR RIDE SONGHOY BLUES LITTLE DRAGON
 KAISER CHIEFS WILD BEASTS ANGEL OLSEN THE LEMON TWIGS
 NINES MODERAT RAG'N'BONE MAN CRAIG DAVID CIRCA WAVES
 FUTURE ISLANDS ANI DIFRANCO NADIA ROSE SHAGGY TOVE LO
 BRITISH SEA POWER MARK LANEGAN THE MOONLANDINGZ
 GIRL RAY FRANK CARTER & THE RATTLESNAKES TEMPLES HALSEY
 THE CINEMATIC ORCHESTRA ALL WE ARE SASHA & JOHN DIGWEED
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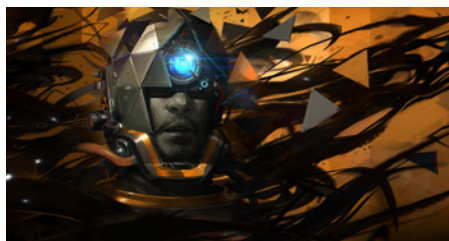
INDEPENDENT ALTERNATIVE FASHION HAND FINISHED IN THE UK



ELITE: MAY ROUNDUP

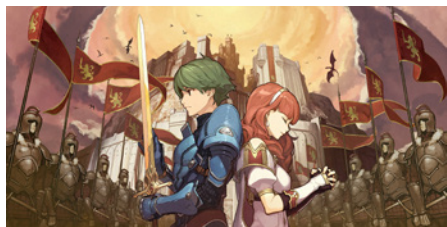
OUT THIS MONTH THE BIGGEST RELEASES COMING OUT THIS MONTH

Prey (PC, PS4, XO, out 5 May)



Arkane Studios is rebooting 2006 shooter / puzzler Prey, this time as a stylish, story-driven sci-fi adventure. It looks hugely promising, and Arkane has proven it's up to the task with the Dishonored games.

Fire Emblem Echoes: Shadows of Valentia
(3DS, Out 19 May)



Whilst we can't help but wish this new Fire Emblem was being released on the Switch instead of the 3DS, there's no doubt it'll be another challenging strategy affair from the fine folks at Intelligent Systems.

Guilty Gear Xrd REV 2 (PS4, Out 26 May)



Guilty Gear Xrd gets an expansion and re-release with Rev 2, which adds new characters and an extended story mode. Owners of Revelator can buy a DLC update to the new version of the best-looking fighting game around.

ARMS (Switch, Out May)



Nintendo's fun punch-em-up finally arrives this month, and will be hoping to win the hearts of competitive gamers who love nothing more than virtually punching people in the face with oversized boxing gloves.

Rime (PC, PS4, XO, Switch, Out 26 May)



This striking adventure / puzzler from Spanish developer Tequila Works has changed dramatically during its development, but the results look staggeringly pretty.

GAMING GADGETS TOP NEW TECH YOU'LL WANT TO GET YOUR HANDS ON

Hyperkin X91 Retro Gamepad



This Xbox and PC gamepad bears a striking resemblance to the SNES controller, but manages to squeeze in all the buttons you'll need for modern games. It's a fully functional Xbox one pad, but it's best suited to a spot of retro gaming.

ON THE HORIZON GAMES WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO

Valkyria: Azure Revolution (PS4, XO June)



The latest entry in SEGA's infrequent Valkyria series takes a bold jump towards being action RPG, leaving some of its strategy roots behind, but still offers a compelling alternate history setting and gorgeous canvas art style.

Yakuza: Kiwami (PS4, August)



An enhanced remake of the original PS2 Yakuza game, with new battle systems, mini-games, and sidequests. It looks stunning, and it's as good an excuse as any to catch up with this criminally overlooked series.

Destiny 2 (PS4, XO, PC, September)



Bungie has a lot to prove with the next game in the Destiny series, especially after announcing that your existing characters and equipment won't be transferable. A fresh start, then, but a chance to deliver on the promise that the original game's expansions hinted at.



NEWS ROUNDUP

The biggest gaming stories this month, in a handy summarised form. You're welcome.

Xbox Scorpio



We've known for some time that Microsoft has a new Xbox on the way, but the company has finally lifted the lid and given us the full technical rundown of the new machine's capabilities. MS is touting Scorpio as having 6 Teraflops of power (which is an actual thing, apparently) but the long and the short of it is that the console is being designed to run games at native 4K resolution. It'll run all existing Xbox One games (and future Xbox One games will need to support both the original console and the Scorpio, as with the PS4 and PS4 Pro), and even includes a UHD Blu-Ray drive. Expect the full lowdown at E3 next month, but it's due out by the end of this year and rumours are suggesting it might carry a price tag of £399.



Call of Duty: WWII



Activision has announced the name of this year's Call of Duty title, and as promised, they're taking to series back to its roots with the simply titled Call of Duty: WWII. Coming out on 3rd November, the single player campaign will recreate the Normandy landings and Battle of the Bulge, there's a co-op Zombies campaign, and multiplayer will include an objective-based War mode.

New 2DS XL



Nintendo has dropped an unexpected bombshell on us with the announcement of the New 2DS XL, a new member of the 3DS family (though likes its predecessor the 2DS, doesn't feature stereoscopic 3D). It's the same hardware as the New 3DS, including the secondary 'C-pad' analog nub, and comes in two fetching colour combos. It'll carry a price tag of around £150.

This month on PS+ and Games with Gold



Get your hands on these free games if you're a PlayStation Plus or Xbox Live Gold member in May:



As a PS Plus member, you can pick up Tales from the Borderlands and Alienation on PS4, Port Royale 3 and Blood Knights for PS3 owners, whilst Vita owners get Laser Disco Defenders and Type:Rider.



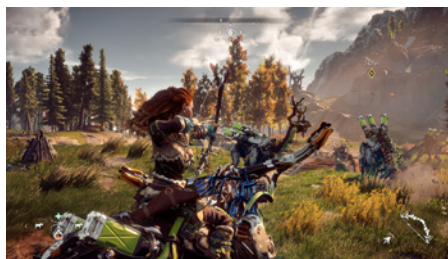
In Xbox Live Gold land, Giana Sisters: Twisted Dreams and Lara Croft and the Temple of Osiris are the Xbox One offerings, with Lego Star Wars: The Complete Saga and Star Wars: The Force Unleashed II available on Xbox 360 (and Xbox One via backwards compatibility).



HORIZON ZERO DAWN

(PS4, Out Now)

Killzone developers Guerilla Games have always had a reputation for pushing the graphical boundaries of a system - PS4 launch title Killzone: Shadow Fall is still one of the best looking titles on the platform - but with Horizon Zero Dawn the developer has really outdone itself. Not just visually (though Horizon is a truly breathtaking game to behold, prompting questions about what kind of sorcery Guerilla has employed to extract this kind of performance from Sony's hardware) but in pretty much every other way as well. Horizon is a spectacular achievement, and a stellar example of how world building, game mechanics and story can come together to create an open world adventure that's unlike anything else out there.



Aloy can take control of some enemies, and even ride them into battle

The premise is simple enough: Horizon presents a post-apocalyptic future where robotic creatures roam the ruins of long-lost cities. Humans live in isolated tribal societies, eking out a living from the land and defending themselves against the robots when need be, occasionally hunting them for parts. You play as Aloy, an Outcast and a bit of an expert hunter, but who longs to be a full member of the tribe. Such is the basic setup, but it quickly becomes

apparent that there's something rather unique about Aloy and her knack for using old technology from the 'metal world'.

Horizon's story is perhaps the unexpected highlight of the game - it manages to balance a sense of wonder and discovery as Aloy learns the history of the world and the origins of the robots with more personal, immediate dangers and story arcs. And that's without even mentioning the masterful environmental storytelling; every region of the map boasts wonderful vistas that practically beg you to guess what the ruins once were, and in the subterranean ruins of the metal world you'll often find the scattered corpses of prior inhabitants, along with holographic and audio recordings of their last days of life. Much of it is superficial, but some of the stories you'll uncover are hauntingly powerful.



Stealth is mostly optional, but often beneficial.

It's Aloy herself that's the real standout, however. She's capable and pretty badass, but exudes a quiet confidence; never coming across as self-important or cocky. She's brought to life wonderfully by voice actress Ashly Burch, a careful, nuanced script, and subtle, believable facial animations.

If all this talk of storyline and characters comes as a surprise, well, it did for me as well. But don't worry - Horizon is just as capable of dramatic, pulse-quickenning action as it is at spinning a compelling yarn. Aloy has a myriad of weapons at her disposal, from her default bow to more exotic slings and tripcasters, which can use elemental effects to disrupt her foes. Cycling through weapons and crafting ammo is made blissfully easy, and since you'll need to adapt your strategies for different enemies it's no bad thing. There are dozens of different creatures to battle; robotic creatures that come in all shapes and sizes as well as occasional human enemies, and each has its own weaknesses to exploit. Tapping into Focus mode allows Aloy to slow down time briefly and analyse her opponents, highlighting components that can be damaged. Targeting these with careful shots can disable weapon systems, detonate fuel canisters, or just inflict masses of damage, but doing so in the midst of a fight isn't as easy as it sounds, since Horizon's enemies are fast, powerful constructs that are quite capable of taking Aloy down with a couple of blows. It's here where the game's stealth elements come in to play; inviting you to scout out a pack of enemies before engaging them, picking off the weaker enemies or setting up traps if you wish, but these elements are entirely optional - you're free to adapt your play style and customise your skill set and weapon list as you see fit, and apart from one slightly clunky forced stealth section the game never penalises you for choosing to play your own way.



Aiming for the glowing eye thing is generally a safe bet.

The combat can be brutal, but it's always satisfying, and Horizon does a lot of work to reinvigorate the open world genre with new takes on existing ideas. The map on offer isn't huge, but it's dense with meaningful things to see and do - there are no

checklists of repetitive side-activities to complete, and the optional content always has an in-game benefit- completing one of the game's Cauldrons, for example, grants you the ability to take control of certain enemy types, and clearing one of the half dozen bandit camps provides you with new merchants to trade with. Special credit is due to Horizon's implementation of the ubiquitous Viewpoints - in order to reveal a map area, Aloy must track down a Tallneck - a giant robotic giraffe - and find a way to climb up to its saucer-shaped head to download its map data. There are only a handful of these, but each is a unique, and enjoyable, challenge in its own right.



Tallnecks might not be the most imaginatively-named creatures out there.

That Guerilla has managed to populate Horizon's open world with engaging content, thrilling combat, and a storyline that you can really sink your teeth into is impressive enough, but to make it all look as incredible as Horizon does - that's truly remarkable. Even on a standard PS4, Horizon looks spectacular and maintains a rock-solid framerate, and PS4 Pro support sweetens the deal that little bit more. I should also mention the great soundtrack, which fuses tribal beats, orchestral grandeur and electronic influences effortlessly, and serves as the perfect accompaniment to Aloy's adventures.

Horizon Zero Dawn stands as a proud example of why new intellectual properties are a good thing, and does a lot of revitalise the open world genre in new ways. Moreover, its an absolute joy to play, a delight to watch, and packs an unexpectedly deep, engaging story that will keep you hooked until the end.

9/10



PERSONA 5

(PS4, PS3, Out Now)

Calling Persona 5 stylish is like saying 'It's just a flesh wound!' after having both of your arms cut off. P5 doesn't just have style; it IS style. If you were to slice it open and peer inside you'd find Brigitte Bardot staring back at you. That's not to say that the game lacks substance - far from it, in fact; this 80+ hour JRPG has more than enough content to go around - but every single thing about Persona 5, from its very first title card to its cool character and menu animations to its glorious loading screens exudes class in a way that should make other games sit up and take notice. Battle menus pulse with life in such a stylish way it's already become a meme; dialogue sequences broadcast reactions with cropped animated closeups of character faces; enemy health bars are represented by stylised hearts. Long and short: it's cool. And for a Japanese Role-Playing Game about a bunch of schoolkids who can slip into an alternate reality and become the Phantom Thieves, that's saying quite a bit.



You'll become pretty familiar with the sights of Toyo by the time you're done.

If you've played a Persona game, the basic setup will seem familiar enough. you're a high school student that's just transferred to a new school in Tokyo, but you quickly discover that there's a whole other world out there, a Metaverse filled with aggressive shadows. Thankfully, you (and your friends) can summon Persona - spirit beings primarily inspired by Japanese folklore and legend that act as a thinly veiled metaphor for a character's personality - and that these Persona can cast spells and grant you special, Metaverse-only abilities. You (and your friends) will need to enter the Metaverse in order to take on villains, framed in Persona 5 as metaphysical Palaces, representations of a person's inner self, to steal an item that represents their desires. Doing so will cause the person in the real world to have a change of heart - realising the error of their ways and making amends for their actions.



The battle interface is a masterpiece of design.

It's not a particularly straightforward setup admittedly, but the game does an admirable job of

explaining the workings of the Metaverse so you feel as knowledgeable as your character does, at least. Whilst Persona 4 had the characters battling their own demons in order to overcome them, this time around you're getting stuck in to some real villains, and the game doesn't pull any punches with its subject matter: your first target is an abusive teacher, and your band of Phantom Thieves will target everyone from a gluttonous mob boss to a vain art plagiarist, but the stakes are always made inherently personal. Not that the other elements of the story are particularly shy about touching on dark subject matter - each character's personal stories are filled with tragedy, jealousy, illicit side jobs, identity crises, arranged marriage and depression, and it's to Persona 5's credit that these storylines are handled sensitively and in a way that encourages you to think about the matters at hand, but that doesn't feel preachy. That said, though the writing is generally excellent, the translation is somewhat spotty in parts, with some garbled sentences making their way into the game, but the voice actors do a good job of keeping the momentum going.



Igor is apparently pretty sharp-eyed.

In a series first, the Palaces you infiltrate are uniquely designed dungeons now, complete with puzzles and diverging paths - in previous games the dungeons were a series of randomly generated corridors and rooms that randomised on each visit. This lends each location a strong sense of character, and the unique setting of each Palace gives the developers the chance to go nuts with the visual and level design. You'll find Safe Rooms as you progress, which you can use to exit the dungeon and restart from if you need to quit for the day to recover some health or SP. Given that each dungeon has a time limit assigned - you'll need to complete the dungeon by a certain date in game - and that SP restoring items are hard to come by, there's a bit of a risk vs reward strategising for how far you can push into the dungeon without dying when you're almost out of resources.

Battles are the expected JRPG turn-based affair, with each party member boasting their own unique abilities via their Persona whilst your own character can hot-swap Persona's mid battle to change his skill set. There's a heavy emphasis on damage types and exploiting weaknesses - identify (and hit) an enemy's weakness and you'll not only do massive damage, you'll also stun them and get an extra turn. If you stun all of the enemies, you can perform a Hold Up to demand items or money, try and convince an enemy to become your Persona, or just pile on with an All-Out Attack with all of your characters.



It might look chaotic here, but in motion the interface looks glorious.

Smart design decisions really help the flow of battle to progress smoothly. You can Press L1 to see what information you've learned about an enemy, and your friendly tactical officer (a talking cat called Mona) will handily call out weaknesses you've learned when you target a foe. You can hit R1 to automatically select an attack or ability that will target an enemy's weak spot, and there are countless little touches that make life easier - like the way the game automatically selects the character with the lowest HP when you select a Healing spell, or informs you if there's nobody that needs ailments curing when you try to use an item. There's even a quick heal button after battles to top up your party's health without needing to dive into menus.

The only real frustration comes with the fact that your character cannot be revived in battle - if you run out of HP, it's game over, even if your other party members are still standing. That wouldn't be too bad, but it's possible for some enemies to take huge chunks of health off you in one go, and there are even some instant-kill attacks that admittedly have a low chance of success, but that doesn't help when your main character is the only one hit and you're forced to reload or return to the nearest safe room. Thankfully, safe rooms in dungeons are fairly frequent, and in the overworld you can save at any

time so long as you're not in a dialogue sequence or cutscene.



Even the map looks kind of cool. Well. Sort of.

Outside of the Palaces, you'll need to go to school, socialise with your friends, study for exams, and work to earn money and increase your skills. All of these events cause time to pass, and with only so much free time per week, it's a delicate balancing act to improve your relationships with party members, advance your stats, and earn money. Some character storylines require your stats to be at a certain level to progress, and there are dozens of activities spread out across the city, and dozens of characters to interact with and get to know. What makes them all worthwhile is the way that relationships tie into abilities in game - improving your relationship with a character grants either them or you new abilities, including a chance to remove status effects from allies, take damage in your place, even survive hits that would otherwise have killed them. These become all-but essential as the game progresses, but even if they weren't, the storylines you'll uncover are interesting enough to be worth the time investment anyway.

There's so much more I haven't mentioned - the randomised levelling dungeon that is Mementos and its extra Phantom Thief targets, the way the game is framed as an interview in a police cell, all of the little touches and humorous twists that give the game its personality.

Persona 5's surface might be all about the style, but beneath that glossy exterior there's a fiercely beating heart. This is a game with a lot to give, and it gives it readily. Persona 5 is the epitome of JRPGs, and a game that should not be missed.

10/10



MINI REVIEWS MAY

Yooka-Laylee



It's cute and charming, but this love letter to N64-era 3D platformers brings with it a host of problems, including finicky controls, a terrible camera, and fourth wall-breaking jokes that fall surprisingly flat. If you have fond memories of Spyro and Banjo Kazooie, you might find this worthwhile, but it's not for everyone. **6/10**

Bayonetta (PC)



The PlatinumGames classic makes a belated appearance on PC. This is action at its finest; if you missed Bayonetta when it came out on Xbox 360 and PS3 you owe it to yourself to pick this up. **9/10**

Bulletstorm: Full Clip Edition (XO, PS4, PC)



A not-really-needed-but-welcome-nonetheless remaster of an overlooked shooter that boasts plenty of fun. Also has a script that includes the line "I named him Waggleton P. Tallylicker, but I never got the chance to tell him." **8/10**

Planescape: Torment Enhanced Edition

(PC, Android, iOS)



Apparently it's remaster season, so Beamdog has released a well-timed Enhanced Edition of the CRPG classic game. Some of the systems feel a little dated, but the story is still powerful and well-written. **9/10**

Mario Kart 8 Deluxe (Switch)



Another remaster? Well, more of a re-release on a new system, but the Switch version of Mario Kart 8 brings with it all of the DLC from the Wii U version, some new tracks, and a revamped battle mode. Its the best version of an exceptional game. **9/10**

MISTYY

GAMER GIRL





Welcome to Elite Gaming! What are you playing at the minute?

Dishonoured 2, Battlefield 1 and Dark Souls.

How long have you been gaming?

When I was a little girl, I used to watch my dad play games, I loved watching him play Doom on the N64 for some reason, then he got me my own console and games, I was about 5 when I first started to game.

What's the first game that made an impression on you?

Zelda Ocarina of Time. It's still my all time favourite game to this day! I have never got bored of playing it despite completing it at least 20 times. When I first started playing it, my dad got called into school several times because I used to wonder off at playtime into the woods saying I was "looking for the deku tree" haha.

What's your platform of choice?

Well I'm a console gamer. I play a little PC gaming, but I do prefer my consoles. Xbox One is my main choice followed by PS4.

How do you prefer to game?

Lying on my bed or comfy on the sofa is always a win for gaming, but I never remain that way for long. I somehow always end up closer and closer to the TV until I'm right in front of it leaning in some strange, uncomfortable position.

If you could bring back any classic videogame / franchise, what would it be?

Well they already remastered Ocarina of Time and Majoras Mask on 3DS and FF7 on PS4 for me so I pretty much got what I wanted there! Crash is coming soon too which is just awesome! So I think maybe a remastered/remake of Pokemon Stadium would be really cool! I'm not really fussy because to be honest, I prefer just playing the classics.



MISTY Y *GAMER GIRL*



MISTYY
GAMER GIRL





You can make any one video game character real for a day. Who would you choose and what would you do with them?

I mean judging by my answers so far you can already guess it would be Link... However I would have to pick either Dante or Vincent Valentine... For erm... Personal reasons :P Nah I'm just kidding! Haha I think I'll go with Elizabeth from Bioshock Infinite and use her ability to tear into one dimension and enter another - can you imagine how cool that would be? Screw travelling the world when you can travel dimensions!

Describe your perfect game.

FPS, zombies, magic, cool abilities, decent graphics, big map, epic, long storyline, lengthy level system, amazing online/campaign and a custom character option with multiple choices so we can make our own characters super unique!

QUICK-FIRE DECISIONS!

Sonic or Mario?

Mario!

Mass Effect or Final Fantasy?

Final Fantasy!

Grand Theft Auto or Saints Row?

GTA!

Single player or Multiplayer?

That's a really tough one! Depends on my mood! Can't quick fire an answer back for that one sorry!

Lara Croft or Nathan Drake?

Lara!

Co-Op or Versus?

That's a close one! As much as my competitive side loves winning :P I have to say co-op!

Street Fighter or Mortal Kombat?

MK! <3

Call of Duty or Battlefield?

Ahh! A difficult one again! Call of Duty for the older games, but Battlefield since COD went so bad downhill.

Forza or Gran Turismo?

Forza!





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